

THE TIMES

POETRY AND
REMEMBRANCE P 19

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Cabinet wrangle over budget plans

Dorrell seeks £1 billion to rescue NHS

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN



Dorrell: pressing for another £300 million

STEPHEN DORRELL will today appeal to the Cabinet over the head of the Treasury for the extra £1 billion that he insists is needed to prevent a crisis in the hospital service.

The Health Secretary was reported last night to be ready to "go to the wire" in his effort to bridge the gap between his target of £1 billion and the £700 million he has won in a protracted negotiations.

He is one of a handful of ministers yet to settle with the Treasury. Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, was reported last night to be fighting Kenneth Clarke's attempt to make deeper cuts in his £22 billion budget and he, too, may make a personal plea to Cabinet colleagues.

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, is also holding out against demands for cuts in his £90 billion budget. He is believed to have agreed to freeze lone-parent benefits for the second year running and he has said that his new fraud Bill will ensure substantial savings, but he is still under pressure to cut benefits for new claimants.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, settled yesterday after a long wrangle with the Treasury over spending on higher education and was reported to be satisfied. Last year she won an extra £800 million and this year is believed to have gained several hundred million above her planned spending figure.

The pressure on Mr Clarke is such that he is expected to have no more than £2 billion available for tax cuts on November 26. Whitehall insiders said that that was all he was likely to be able to prune from the £268 billion spending total for next year. The BSE saga has eaten heavily into this year's spending, with £1 billion being taken out of the reserve to pay for compensation, and a similar amount will be needed next year.

Mr Dorrell's friends are making plain that the extra money for hospitals is essential to prevent the damaging spectacle this winter of wards being closed down temporarily, patients being transported from hospital to hospital, longer waiting lists, and incidents of patients being left on trolleys for hours at a time.

The cash shortages in the health service are so bad that many trust hospitals have gone into the red and only the prospect of relief when the new financial year starts will enable them to get through. The possibility of some of the extra money being released early to cope with emergency spending this winter was not being ruled out last night.

So big was Mr Dorrell's bid for money on top of the £24 billion earmarked for the health service in 1997-98 and so strong his determination not to give way that John Major called him to Downing Street for a rare Sunday night meeting with Mr Clarke and William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who is in charge of individual negotiations. Mr Dorrell has told colleagues that £1 billion is the sum required to keep the NHS on

track.

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The Government was warned by the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts yesterday that they have "a real funding crisis" on their hands this year. Philip Hunt, its director, predicted hospital deficits of between £200 million and £300 million, and said: "There is a hell of a lot riding on this Cabinet decision because we are in danger of slipping back on much of the progress we have made recently."

Those pushing for cash were not overstating their case, he said. "This year we have a real funding crisis. We simply didn't have enough money to cover the growth in services that we require and unless we get a good settlement for next year, I think we're going to have real problems not only over the winter but in the next financial year as well."

Paul Gascoigne told a football press conference yesterday of his remorse over the incident in which he was accused of beating his wife and blamed the "rage inside me".

"I can't go into great detail about the incident," said the England and Rangers soccer player, "but I deeply regret what happened with Sheryl. It will live with me for the rest of my life."

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"I love playing for England, everybody does," he said. "I realise this is my last chance, and to be honest I didn't really expect Glenn (Hoddle) to pick me so soon. But I'm ready to do the business for my country, and I want to be accepted as more than Gascoigne the footballer because football's a game."

Coach's crusade, page 52

Kensington to oust Scott

The Conservative MP Sir Nicholas Scott last night lost the first round of his fight to avoid deselection after being found stumped in the street during the party conference.

An emergency meeting of the Kensington and Chelsea constituency executive rejected a medical explanation for the collapse and voted to replace him. Sir Nicholas insisted that he would take the fight for his seat to the full constituency association.

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Gascoigne asks forgiveness for 'the rage inside me'

By ROB HUGHES

PAUL GASCOIGNE told a football press conference yesterday of his remorse over the incident in which he was accused of beating his wife and blamed the "rage inside me".

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Coach's crusade, page 52

Polls put Clinton ahead in 31 states

From MARTIN FLETCHER, IN WASHINGTON

WITH eight eve-of-election polls giving him leads of four to 18 points President Clinton looks almost certain to be returned to the White House today despite last-minute Republican warnings that his administration would be destabilised by scandal.

Americans will also elect a new Congress today, and the Republicans promised another wave of investigations if they retain control, in particular of the huge Asian contributions to the Democrats' war chest revealed during the campaign's final days.

An outright majority would allow Mr Clinton, elected with 43 per cent of the vote in 1992, to claim that the people have considered and dismissed the charges against him.

Half of yesterday's eight polls put Mr Clinton's support above 50 per cent. In only two did Bob Dole achieve 40 per cent, while Ross Perot had 7 to 9 per cent. A final survey of state polls showed Mr Clinton leading in 31 states with 37 electoral college votes; 107 more than he requires for victory, and Mr Dole leading

in 17 states with 129 electoral college votes.

Almost all the polls showed voters marginally more likely to back Democratic than Republican congressional candidates, but few experts believe the Democrats will gain the three extra seats needed to recapture the Senate. They were less willing to predict the outcome in the House, where all 435 seats are being contested and the Democrats need a net gain of 18.

Graphs of the year's polls show two basically straight horizontal lines, or three if Mr Perot is included. Not one of the hundreds of polls put Mr Dole ahead.

All but conceding defeat, Scott Reed, the 73-year-old Republican's campaign manager, told this week's *New Yorker* magazine: "The truth is, nothing has changed for a long time. We were never able to jolt the race. We thought we jolted it when he left the Senate and with our convention. But we didn't, and we had a string of bad luck."

The campaign, pages 14, 15

Noye plotted to steal millions in cash machine fraud, court told

By STEPHEN FARRELL AND STEWART TENDLER

KENNETH NOYE, one of Britain's most wanted men, conspired to steal hundreds of millions of pounds from cashpoint machines in a plot that could have brought the banking system to its knees, a court heard yesterday.

Noye, 49, a suspect in the M25 road rage murder of Stephen Cameron, was part of an elite team of underworld criminals brought together to pull off one of the biggest crimes in history, it was alleged.

Had they succeeded "the banking system of this country would have been put at risk," Miss Ann Currow, for the prosecution, told Southwark Crown Court in London.

Seven men yesterday admitted conspiracy to steal cash from banks, building societies and financial institutions between January 1 and July 25 1995. They included John Lloyd, a suspect in the 1983 Brink's-Mat robbery, whose wife was jailed for five years for handling stolen bullion, and William Hayward, who was once jailed for shooting the gangster, "Mad Frankie" Frazer. Noye was sentenced to 14 years for handling gold from the Brink's Mat robbery.

With the help of corrupt British Telecom employees, the gang planned to tap into the telephone lines that link cash machines to the mainframe computers at the bank or building society's headquarters.

Confidential information from customers would have been downloaded using computers and transferred onto false plastic cards which they would then use to withdraw cash from machines around the country.

The jury will be directed today to return a not guilty verdict on the charge against Mrs Zekra and to continue considering the case against her three co-defendants.

Outside the court Mrs Zekra, West Kensington, London, said: "I was sure I would not be convicted. I just want to be with my family now and have time on my own. My family, my sons - we all suffered deeply. The time in prison was worst of all."

Her husband, Ahmad, said:

"We came to enjoy living in this country for our sons to get away from the troubles. We came to have democracy and justice. Today I suppose we got our justice."

The court has been told that a gang of upper class Palestinian terrorists planted two car bombs in London. The embassy explosion on July 26 was followed by one in Finchley.

CHRISTMAS
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PREMIERE LINE ENTRY PAGE 32

land Yard's Organised Crime Group. Martin Grant was recruited while serving 16 years in Blantyre open prison for attempting to murder his wife and her child.

While in jail he was taking a degree in electronic communications and digital and logic design and was approached by the conspirators while on day release at a van hire firm owned by Paul Kidd, one of the defendants. At first he agreed to help but later changed his mind and confided in the Rev John Bourne.

He later gave a 300-page statement to police and is now

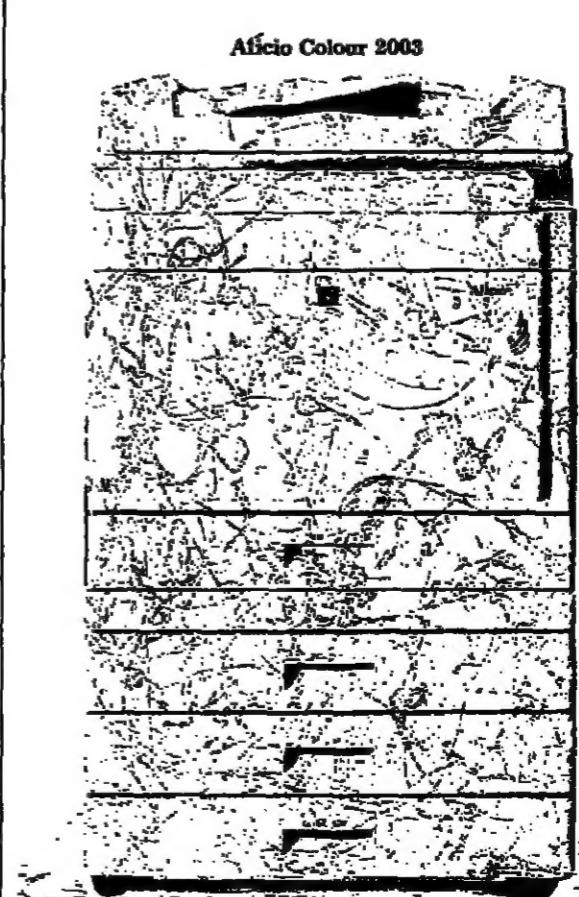
Noye: "put banking system at risk"

living at a secret address. His statement led to police raids on July 25 last year at which five of the conspirators were caught "red-handed" at William Hayward's home in Yalding, Kent.

Detectives who seized more than 70,000 blank cash cards and 28 computer disks, described the operation as the largest cashpoint fraud seen in Britain. They also found computer hardware and software designed to encode the cards with confidential account

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Electronic conspiracy, page 6



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'It was just like Richard Gere and Julia Roberts in the film Pretty Woman'

Business with tax inspector turned to love, says prostitute

BY TIM JONES



Cadogan Gardens, "a very flash sort of house"

A PROSTITUTE told the Old Bailey yesterday that she was paid hundreds of pounds to have regular sex with a senior Inland Revenue tax inspector in a West End hotel.

Michelle Corrigan said that Michael Allcock told her he looked after rich people's finances. "I took it to mean he was some kind of financial adviser," she said.

The prosecution alleges that Mr Allcock's first session with Miss Corrigan was paid for by Hisham Alwan, an Iraqi-born oil consultant who paid eight hotel bills for the couple. In return Mr Alwan did not have to pay a £120,000 tax bill, according to the prosecution.

Mr Allcock, 47, from Colchester, denies 13 charges of corruption between 1987 and 1992. Mr Alwan, 56, from Knightsbridge, London, denies three charges of corruption. David Shamoon, 66, from West Kensington, London, denies one allegation of corruption.

Miss Corrigan, 30, told the court that her relationship with Mr Allcock changed from a financial transaction into love. She said she was doing part-time modelling in the 1980s when she met a man, in Essex she named as David Sullivan.

When she visited him, he asked her if she was interested in escort work. He allegedly gave her Mr Alwan's number and she rang him the next day. "I went to a flat in the Olympia area and while there I had sexual intercourse with Mr Alwan. He gave me about £200 cash and a cheque for £300."

Later she met him at Carlton Court in Maida Vale, which she described as flatlets "just like a hotel, really". She received about "a couple of hundred quid" each time she met. Mr Alwan later told her he owed a friend a favour and introduced her to Mr Allcock at the hotel and gave her a white envelope.

"I had a quick look into the envelope. It was in cash — £200. It was the first time I had ever seen Mr Allcock. I

and buying me lovely things." She told the court they began to fall in love. Miss Corrigan agreed with Anthony Aridge, QC, for the defence, that the affair was "in *Pretty Woman* territory". Like the actors in the film, their relationship changed quickly from sex for cash to one of love.

Mr Aridge said: "Although you started off as client and prostitute within a short time the two of you had fallen in love with each other?"

Miss Corrigan replied: "Yes, that is right. Our relationship gradually changed. He wanted to see me more often and stop seeing other people. I was falling in love with him."

Miss Corrigan agreed that she had an impudent streak and said that on one occasion when a pompous couple annoyed her in a restaurant, she reacted to them by pulling up her skirt and showing them her underwear.

They twice went on holiday together, which the prosecution alleges was at the expense of other wealthy businessmen whom Mr Allcock, 49, was investigating. On the first trip, to Marbella, they were taken by taxi to a villa. "He had been there before and knew where everything was," Miss Corrigan said. "He said he would take me to the Marbella Beach Club.

"There was champagne and wine in the fridge with some food and some flowers with a note. We polished off the champagne." Miss Corrigan told the jury. They had gone shopping and he had bought her clothes and shoes.

"He said he had a bank account and was putting money into it monthly. He talked about buying a house. We were in love, planning a future together. Our relationship became more permanent," she said.

On a second trip a year later — this time to Majorca — when she later learnt he was a tax inspector. She had not asked what he did "because we were too busy having a good time". She said: "I could see he was a wealthy man, taking me to nice places

like Cadogan Gardens as a 'very posh, very Sloaney, very flash sort of house'. They usually used the same room. "It was our joke. It was number 69. I did not know what he did. He did not tell me anything."

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Academics join battle over site of business school

BY JOHN O'LEARY

THE fate of Oxford University's proposed £40 million business school is likely to go to a ballot of dons, whatever the outcome of a highly charged debate in the university parliament this afternoon.

Hundreds of academics are expected to attend today's meeting of Congregation, to vote on a special resolution releasing the University Club sports ground to be the site for the building that will house the school. But either side can demand a postal vote if the result is not clear-cut.

Professor John Kay, who will head Oxford's School of Management Studies, said a postal vote seemed inevitable, but today's vote would be crucial to the project's success. "Even if the result was reversed later, it would be hugely damaging if the vote in Congregation went the wrong way. It would make it much more difficult to recruit top academics or attract donors."

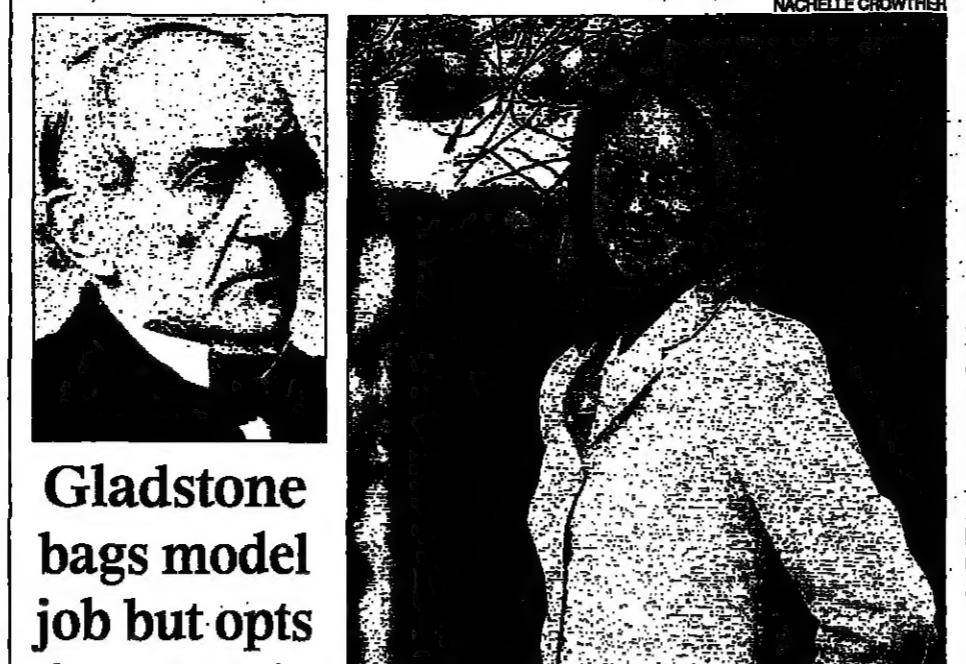
There has been speculation that Wafic Said, the Middle Eastern businessman, might withdraw his £20 million do-

Leading article, page 21

nation if the proposal is rejected. No alternative site has been identified for the school.

Opponents might be voting for a variety of reasons. Some disapprove of Mr Said, a friend of Baroness Thatcher who helped British Aerospace win a big arms contract with Saudi Arabia. Others would prefer that university fundraising activities were concentrated on other disciplines.

A flyer in the latest *Oxford University Gazette* that scarce sports facilities will be further depleted if the scheme goes ahead. The land was sold to the university by Merton College in 1964 on condition that it was kept as open space. Another site has been proposed for the University Club, but the flyer's ten signatures say: "The university should place greater value on its own word and the amenity of the citizens of Oxford than the desire of an individual donor to have his building on the last remaining greenfield site in central Oxford."



Gladstone bags model job but opts for A levels

A 16-YEAR-OLD descendant of William Gladstone, the Liberal Prime Minister, has turned her back on a lucrative modelling contract in Paris to study for her A levels (Kathryn Knight writes).

Olivia Inge, the great-great-great-granddaughter of William Gladstone, was offered her own apartment, a clothing allowance and potential earnings of £10,000 a day after being spotted by

the French agency Metropolitan while visiting an aunt in Paris last month. Instead, she chose to complete her A levels in English, theatre studies and French at Wells Cathedral School in Somerset, turning down the chance to join Metropolitan models Eva Herzogova and Claudia Schiffer.

"Although I was tempted, I decided I wanted to get my A levels behind me," Miss Inge said. "Modeling is an extremely tough world and I need something to fall back on."

One cousin, Cecilia Chancellor, is a model and another is the actress Anna Chancellor. — *Duchesse in Four Weddings and a Funeral*. Miss Inge is not spurning modelling completely. She is hoping to work for the London agency Models One during her school holidays.

Increase in appeals over exams disrupts university admissions

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

AN UPSURGE in appeals against GCSE and A-level grades is forcing examining boards and universities to rethink their traditional procedures, according to the head of the independent authority which arbitrates on disputes.

University admissions officers reported a big increase in the thousands of A-level grades increased on appeal this summer. Some universities are now holding places open while candidates challenge their grades and there are proposals for an express service to ensure that the process is completed in time for degree admissions to go ahead smoothly.

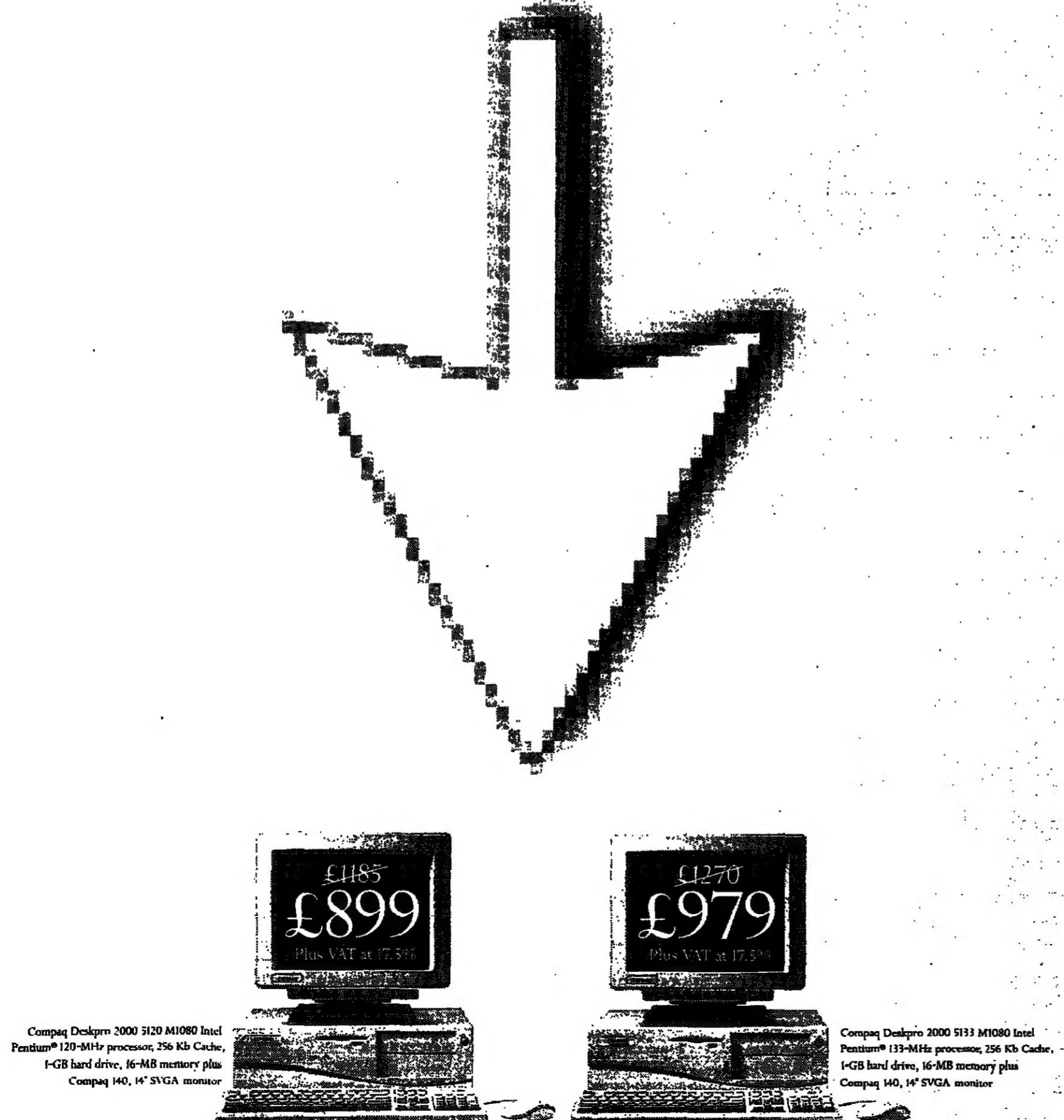
Dame Elizabeth Anson, who chairs the independent Appeals Authority for School Examinations, said yesterday that a culture of appeals had grown up as schools and parents recognised the potential benefits. A variety of explanations has been put forward for the trend, including the influence of examina-

tion league tables. Martin Stephen, the High Master of Manchester Grammar School, wrote in *The Times* on Friday that an unscrupulous school could use an appeal as an excuse for not submitting poor A-level results.

Proposals for a reform of the appeals process are expected later this year when arrangements are finalised for a single body to oversee academic and vocational examinations.

Among the issues under consideration will be whether to give schools the right to examine contested examination papers for the first time.

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MEDICAL BRIEFING

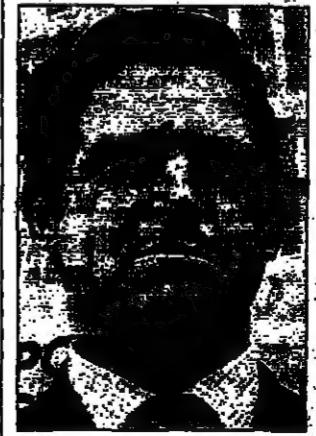
Dr Thomas Stuttaford

IF only Barry Porter, the Conservative MP who died of throat cancer this week, had limited his enthusiasm to beer without tobacco he might have avoided the cancer which killed him.

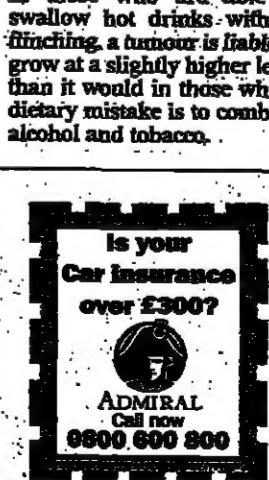
When Mr Porter started in local politics, it operated in a traditionally smoke-filled, beer-drinking environment. The association between cigarettes, alcohol and cancer is an interesting one.

A cursory glance at the statistics would make any drinker leave his glass of beer or whisky untouched. The standard reference book, *Alcohol and the Gastro-Intestinal Tract*, says that 75 per cent of oesophageal gullet cancers and 50 per cent of mouth and laryngeal cancers in the United States are associated with drinking. For many of those who enjoy an evening drink, the good news is lower down on the same page.

Despite the actual statistical association and exhaustive experimental studies, none has shown alcohol to be directly cancer forming, but they have demonstrated that alcohol, when combined with an environmental factor, in particular tobacco, can be



Barry Porter, victim of political environment.



CONNECTION

BUSH

'Student' buys mortar as firework confusion reigns

BY ADRIAN LEE
AND DAMIAN WHITWORTH

MORTAR-STYLE fireworks, similar to the one which killed a City trader at the weekend, were still openly on sale to the public yesterday amid confusion over safety laws.

A Times reporter, posing as a student, bought one device for £25, with a £10 cardboard firing tube, from a shop in east London. The Chinese-made firework was clearly stamped "for professional use only". An advertisement claims it soars 300ft into the air and detonates with an explosion covering a quarter of an acre.

One expert from the Institute of Trading Standards Administration said it was illegal to sell the firework, called a Half and Half Chrysanthemum, to members of the public without checking that they were competent to explode it. However, legislation is so confusing that another trading standards officer said he believed the shop had done nothing illegal but should have given clearer instructions.

The weekend deaths of Steve Timcke, 34, a City trader, from Dartford, Kent, and David Hattersley, 45, a head teacher, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, but prompted calls for mortar-

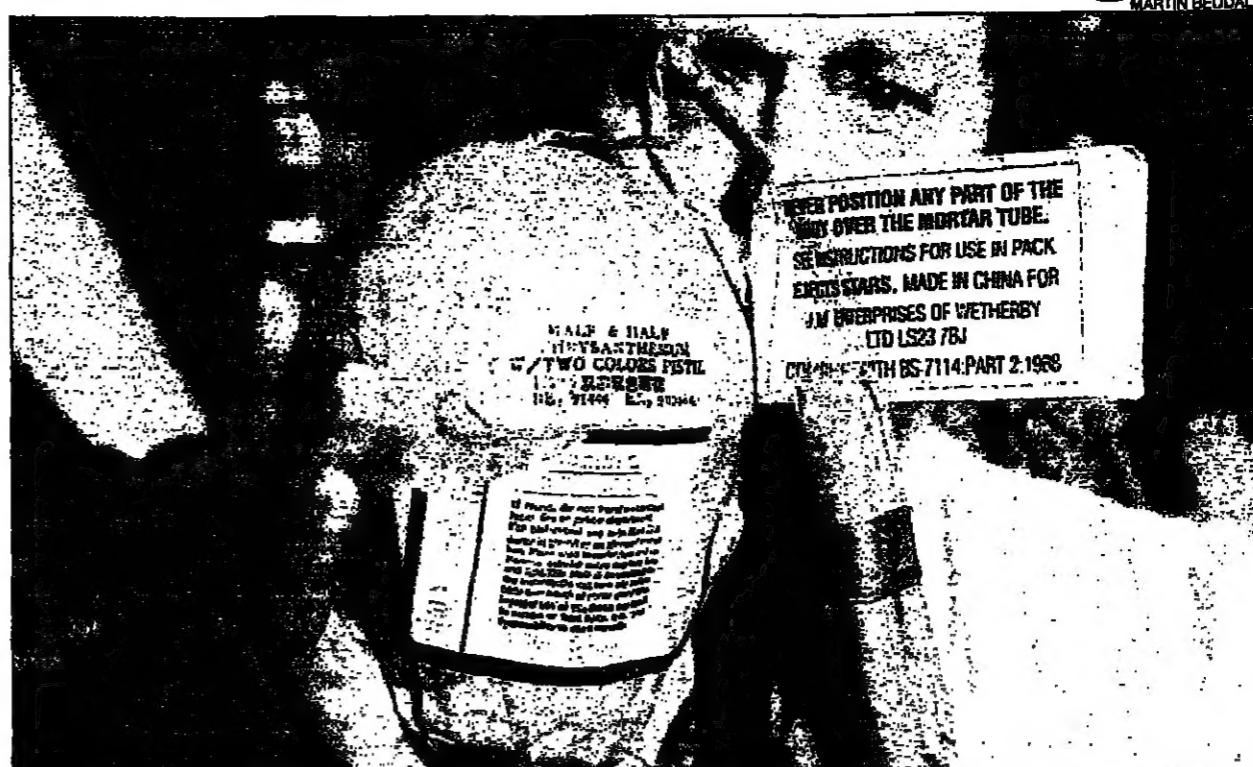
style fireworks to be banned and safety laws tightened. Campaigners claim that a relaxation of trade barriers three years ago led to an influx of dangerous foreign fireworks and helped to cause a sharp leap in injuries. The Government said that the

was an estate agency, but it is being rented for a few weeks to take advantage of the seasonal firework trade with a £10.20 registration purchased from the local authority, Tower Hamlets.

A saleswoman in the shop sold the firework, offering a discount for two. She did not check whether the buyer was a fireworks expert or whether the planned display would be properly organised or in a back garden. She did point out that it should not be detonated in a small area. It carried a label stating that it complied with British Standards and a warning that it could cause fatal injuries, that spectators should be at least 25 metres away and that it should be fired from the 125mm tube.

The assistant said that the tube should be carefully buried. "One guy who bought one blew up his shed by accident," she said.

The British Standards Institution, which classifies fireworks, said any device marked for professional use only should not be sold to the public. Dave Roderick, a spokesman for the Institute of Trading Standards, said: "That's an offence, you shouldn't have been sold that. We would have expected them to ask reasonable questions and perhaps ask for some



For professional use only: yet this mortar-style firework was sold over the counter with no questions asked

reasonable proof that you are competent. You can see why people get their heads blown off."

John Finch, a consumer services officer at Tower Hamlets council, said: "I would certainly like to see fireworks

like this banned. They are outrageous." He believed the shop was within its rights to sell the firework because it was clearly labelled in English.

Nathan Gates, who works at the shop, said: "As we understand it, we are doing

nothing illegal. We have sold quite a few. The mark-up is very good."

J.M. Enterprises, of

Wetherby, West Yorkshire, which imported the firework, insisted it was suitable for

public sale but Nigel Jackson,

the joint managing director, added: "After the two tragedies over the weekend, we had a board meeting and we will not be importing the shells in 1997 for use by anyone."

Libby Purves, page 20



Gabrielle Harvey-Jones with Sir John yesterday

Troubleshooter's daughter wins damages over fall

By BILL FROST

SIR John Harvey-Jones, the former chairman of ICI, last night launched a bitter attack on a restaurant owned by the Queen's nephew, Lord Linley, where his disabled daughter suffered a fall that had "ruined" her life.

He claimed that staff at Deals in Chelsea Harbour, southwest London, had shown neither compassion nor concern after the accident. Their behaviour towards his daughter Gabrielle, who contracted polio at the age of four, had been "monstrous", he added.

His comments came as Miss Harvey-Jones, 45, won undisclosed damages after a six-year legal battle over the fall at Viscount Linley's restaurant. Having gone there in November 1990 for lunch with two friends, she fell and broke her leg, a hearing at Central London County Court was told. She claimed to have slipped on a wet patch of floor.

After the fall she was given a glass of water and asked to move from the floor "because it was putting off" the other diners. Her polio had broken her left leg in two places and she needed a metal plate inserted at the Charing Cross Hospital. She needed further treatment later. Accompanied

by her father, who employed her as his secretary at the time, she said outside court: "It was an appalling experience," she said. "I am relieved it's over. It's taken an unbelievably long time."

Sir John said: "Not at any time have Deals shown the slightest sign of compassion or concern except to give her a glass of water when she was on the floor. The fact they requested to move her when she was on the floor was monstrous. Her life has been ruined but there has been no message from Deals, no telephone calls, no contact of any sort to this day. Surely you can show compassion without admitting liability! I would be ashamed to have any dealings with Deals."

Miss Harvey-Jones, from Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, said: "It's changed my life in every conceivable way. I don't think it will be the same again. The managers asked if I could be moved because I was inconveniencing them. I was putting off the other diners. I had a very high-powered job which I enjoyed. That's now finished. I had polio when I was a child but I was very mobile and independent until the accident."

Jonathan Marks, representing Miss Harvey-Jones, told the court that a settlement had been reached and Neil Block, representing the restaurant owners, Lachmead Ltd, confirmed the agreement.

John Smith, for the Lachmead Group, said: "We are unable to comment on the settlement, or the events leading up to it, as they are subject to a confidentiality agreement."

CONTINUED

Although saddened by the death of Jack Tinker (Obituary, October 29), Princess Margaret wishes to point out that, while she met him on a number of occasions, he never acted as her "walker".

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Proposals for minimum sentences 'enable judges to deal justly with particular cases'

Mackay has change of heart over Crime Bill

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS for tougher sentencing have won the crucial backing of the Lord Chancellor as they start their passage through Parliament. In a change of view, Lord Mackay of Clashfern says the Home Secretary's proposals on minimum sentences are now framed so as to meet the concerns of judges.

Lord Mackay, who had balked at the idea of minimum sentences said in an interview with *The Times* that the Crime (Sentences) Bill would enable judges to 'deal justly with particular cases'. He also came out in favour of legislation to allow the first scrutiny of the secret workings of juries and pledged further reforms to cut needless waste in the £1.4 billion legal aid bill.

On the Crime Bill, Lord Mackay said: 'My view is that it's satisfactory, certainly.' He added: 'I do think that many of their concerns will have been met.' However, the judges, who have condemned the proposals, do not appear to have been appeased by the wording of the Bill.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord



Lord Mackay pictured at his office in the House of Lords by Chris Harris. He admitted he had been behind some of the wording in the Bill

courts have always construed the meaning of 'exceptional circumstances' very strictly. There are many cases which would not be viewed as 'exceptional circumstances' but where judges would wish to give less than the minimum sentence.'

The Bill, which began its passage yesterday, is expected to go through on a large majority in the Commons after Labour decided not to

oppose it. In the Lords, however, Lord Bingham will lead an onslaught by a string of senior judges.

Lord Mackay said he was also seeking legislation to lift the ban on the secrets of the jury room in the light of backing from Lord Bingham. Any such move was strongly opposed by Lord Taylor of Gosforth, his predecessor as Lord Chief Justice who recently retired through ill health.

Lord Bingham has said that he would be in favour of controlled research into how jurors went about their task.

Lord Mackay said: 'It's something that needs to be considered. I've certainly had proposals for taking this forward and I'll do my best to take them forward as soon as circumstances allow.'

He emphasised that such research, recommended by the Royal Commission on

Criminal Justice in 1993, would not inquire into individual verdicts. 'Nobody wishes to create a situation in which appeals on jury verdicts are the result of inquiries of this kind.'

The idea was to see if the jury system could be improved, or if steps could be taken to help jurors in matters they found difficult.

On the subject of legal aid, the Lord Chancellor made clear for the first time that his

plans would proceed 'hand in hand' with the current overhaul of civil justice by Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls.

He said a Legal Aid Bill had

been dropped for this session as 'the Government took the view that to have a Bill of this kind would be quite difficult and on the whole I prefer that a Bill of this kind should be thoroughly considered'.

Legal, pages 41 & 43

Islanders back self-government poll

By IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST three out of four Isle of Wight residents want a referendum on self-government, according to a MORI opinion poll published yesterday. The survey also shows a clear majority opposed to building a bridge or tunnel to join the island to the mainland.

Morris Barton, leader of the Liberal Democrat-controlled council, said: 'This shows people here are fed up with the way they have been ignored by central government and want the right to make decisions affecting their lives.'

The council will press for the referendum and will take the Government to the European Court if it refuses to hold one.

'Over 40 per cent of people under 28 on

the island are unemployed and they are the people who feel most strongly about this,' Mr Barton said. 'We have the highest unemployment in the South East and one of the lowest GDPs in Britain.'

The EU told us that we would automatically qualify for assisted-area status but because our Government lumps us in regionally with the prosperous South East, we get nothing. The result is that we have a haemorrhage of young people from the island and we are left with an ageing population.'

The MORI poll questioned 790 residents aged over 18, chosen as representative of the 125,000 population.

Motorist banned for catching up with paperwork in the fast lane

A MOTORIST seen reading a book while driving at 70mph in the fast lane of a motorway escaped with a three-month ban at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday after the judge ruled that he must have been trying to catch up with his paperwork (Russell Jenkins writes).

Gary Roberts, 25, a contract cleaning company executive of Crosskeys, Gwent, was driving erratically at speeds of up to 70mph along the M4 while reading what appeared to be a paperback novel, the court was told. He was arrested after an off-duty police officer saw him propping the book on the steering wheel and followed his car for 20 miles in the fast lane. Roberts, who says he cannot remember the incident, admitted a charge of dangerous driving. Judge Curran said he accepted that Roberts was not reading a novel and banned him from driving for three months, fined him £250 with £400

costs. He was also ordered to retake his driving test.

He told Roberts: 'Modern working life means many people catch up on work and I believe you were trying to catch up on paperwork.'

Roberts said afterwards: 'I never dreamt there was a policeman following me. I thought I was the victim of road rage. The car behind me was flashing its lights and driving very close so I just carried on going. It could have been any lunatic.'

Singer on street

The singer George Michael is giving his first interview in six years — to *The Big Issue*, the magazine sold to help the homeless. Michael has refused to give any publicity interviews for years. The editor containing the interview goes on sale on Monday.

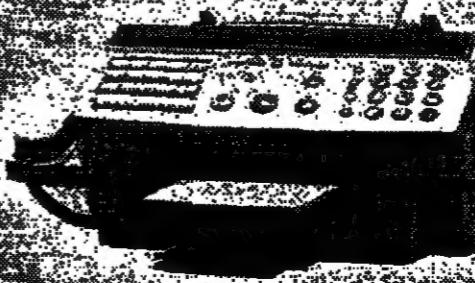
Driving school

A college has set up its own motorway academy to get sixth-formers through their driving tests. A qualified driving instructor takes practical and theory sessions at Richard Huish College, Taunton, Somerset, during free classroom periods.

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Don with mistaken list of honours goes on extended leave

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE controversial head of a university college has taken leave of absence after a series of discrepancies in his academic qualifications came to light.

When senior officials at Durham University meet this morning to discuss the issue, they will be told that the Rev Dr Duane Wade-Hampton Arnold, Principal of St Chad's College at Durham, is taking three months' leave.

Dr Arnold, 43, declined to comment yesterday when asked if he would return to the principal's lodge in the shadow of Durham Cathedral when his leave was completed. His wife Janet, who was appointed the university's part-time director of development at the same time as Dr Arnold took up his post in 1994, is also taking three months' leave.

Dr Arnold, who earns £40,000 a year, will remain on full pay, as will his wife, who is paid £20,000 for her three-



Dr Arnold: going on leave with wife

day-a-week job. The American-born principal said last night: "I can confirm I am taking leave of absence. I am not quite sure just yet exactly what I shall be doing, but I have a number of projects to consider."

"I shall be doing what I always do, reading and writing. I shall be out and about, in Durham and elsewhere, I

am not sure if I will be going to the United States. My wife will be with me, we usually do things together."

Last month Dr Arnold admitted that a series of academic qualifications in the 1994 Who's Who and at least one ecclesiastical directory were misleading. He blamed errors by staff on the journals who had interpreted his honours as similar-sounding, but more prestigious awards.

The university is also checking details given by him for his application to the Department of Education and Employment for a work permit, although it says Dr Arnold is more than qualified.

Last night academics within the university declined to comment until after the council meeting, but Dr Vernon Armitage, Principal of St Hilda and St Bede College, said: "I am very concerned for the future of St Chad's. When new articles for its government are drawn up they should be associated with the appointment of a new principal."



Guy Newman and his wife Faith outside their prize-winning village store in Somerset, which was founded by a veteran of the Crimean War

Happier days in store for the village shop

By MICHAEL PRESTAGE

THE village shop is at last winning the battle against cut-price competition from supermarkets. Research shows that, after two decades, the decline has abated as an emphasis on personal service and a more business-like approach give village shops an edge.

The recovery is charted in records of shop numbers kept by Wiltshire County Council and a recent study of the county by the Rural Development Commission. In the Queen's Speech

last month the importance of the village shop was recognised by the Government, with its Rural Communities Bill to allow rates to be cut by up to 50 per cent. Up to 6,000 village stores could benefit.

Andy Conn, a senior planning officer with the council, welcomed the revival, saying the stores were very important for villages. "It marks a recovery in confidence and perhaps a determination on the part of the shop-owners who remain to succeed." He said the less well-run shops had succumbed to the pressures of recession and competition, while those that survived had owners with entrepreneurial zeal. Shops now offered items such as videos and had in-store bakeries. "Once, running the village store was seen as a sort of semi-retirement job. Now, people are coming into the business knowing it is going to be hard work to make it succeed."

Tony Foss, a retail consultant working for the commission, said: "I have studied 150 village shops and life is still difficult for them, but there is a feeling that the worst is over. The shops that have survived will continue to flourish."

Churchinford village store, in Somerset, does not look much changed from the picture hanging on the wall, circa 1904. But the range of goods — everything from diesel fuel and fruit and veg to newspapers and wellington boots — is vastly different. Martin Newman gave up his job as operations manager of an engineering company to run the store with his wife Faith. It serves a four-mile radius and won a Best Village Shop in Somerset competition in 1994.

Doctors say new drugs successful in fighting Aids

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

NEW drug therapies against the Aids virus HIV are transforming the lives of many patients, dramatically reducing risks of blindness and cancer, doctors reported yesterday.

"Since we started these therapies we have seen a complete transformation," Dr Peter Ruane, an Aids specialist from Los Angeles, told a news conference at the International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection at Birmingham Convention Centre.

A new class of drugs, called nucleoside inhibitors, used in combination with established treatments such as AZT or ddC as part of a cocktail of drugs, can reduce the amount of HIV below levels of detectability. Though not cured, many patients have found that their condition is enormously improved.

Two striking findings announced by Dr Ruane yesterday are reductions in opportunistic infections such as those caused by cytomegalovirus (CMV), which can lead to blindness in people who are HIV-positive. Dr Ruane said: "We're just not seeing any new CMV disease. It is extraordinary."

He also said a common

cancer that affected Aids patients was spontaneously disappearing. "Patients with Kaposi's sarcoma who were normally referred for radiation therapy or chemotherapy were watching the lesions actually disappear."

The reason, he said, was that the patient's own immune systems seemed to be fighting off the disease.

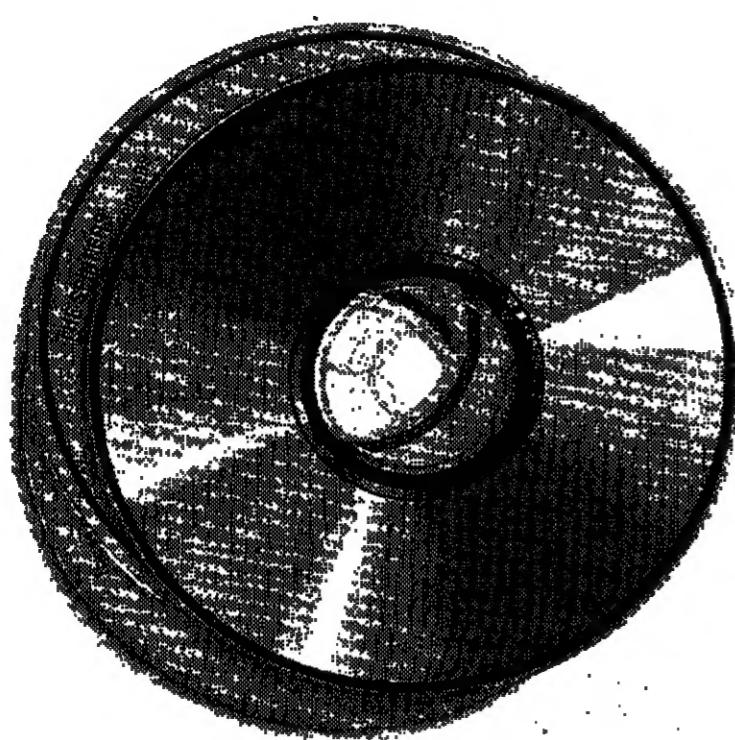
Aids activists urged that the new drugs should be made available to all British patients as soon as possible. They fear that restricted drug budgets in the NHS may prevent the drugs being as widely prescribed as their effects warrant.

Older drugs such as AZT can kill HIV but mutant forms that are resistant survive and multiply rapidly. Dr Charles Farthing, medical director of the Aids Healthcare Foundation in Los Angeles, said two drugs at once had better effects, and with three the virus drops down and then, instead of coming back, it drops down further and further.

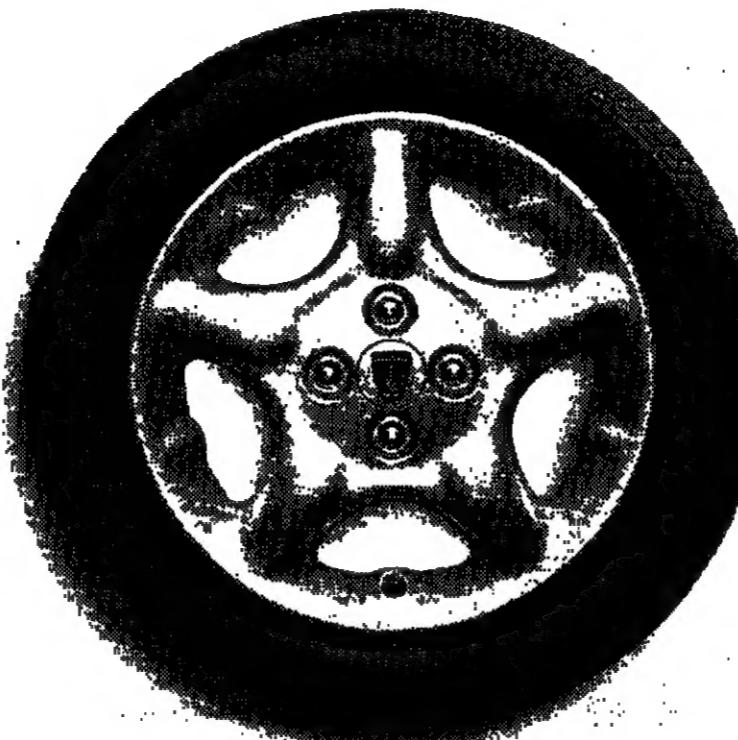
He added: "If you hit it hard with multiple drugs, you can drive it down until it is not reproducing and then it cannot become resistant."

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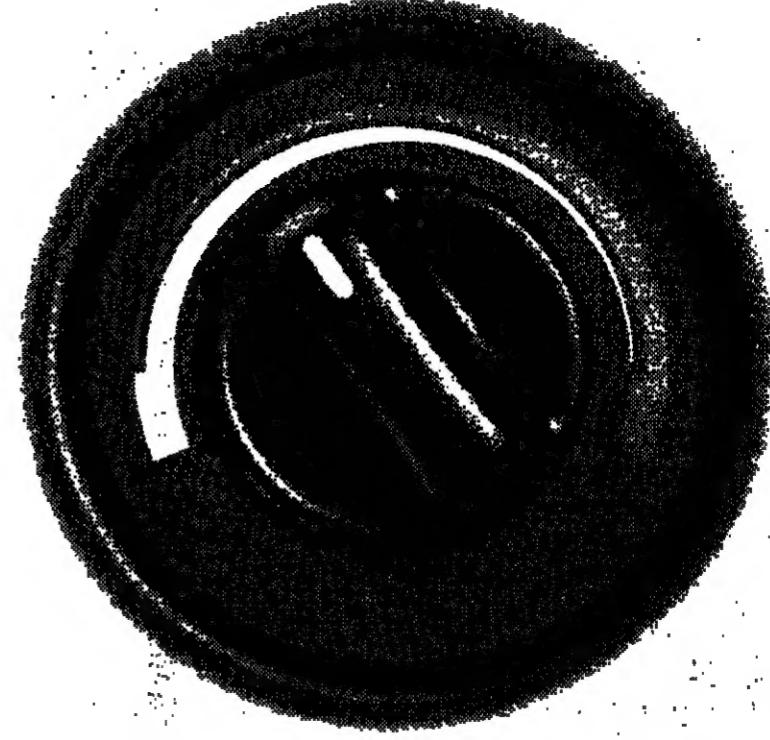
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Sale of archive that reveals the passion of writer's affair with the muse of Dr Zhivago

Lyrical letters shed light on Pasternak's love for his Lara

By DALVA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

LYRICAL letters written by Boris Pasternak to the woman who inspired his *Doctor Zhivago* are among an important archive which is to be sold later this month for an estimated £500,000.

Pasternak once wrote of Olga Ivinskaya: "She is the Lara [Zhivago's lover] in my book." The archive, which remained with her after his death, is described as the largest and most important Pasternak collection to come to auction.

They offer an insight into the private and professional life of one of Russia's most revered literary figures. His affair with Olga began in 1946 and continued until his death in 1960: he consulted her on everything, "literary and otherwise", said Christie's, which is selling the archive.

As well as important literary manuscripts, including original drafts for his last poetic cycle *When the Skies*



Julie Christie and Omar Sharif in the 1965 film of *Dr Zhivago*. The book caused a scandal in Russia

Clear, and autobiographical notes on the period of terror during the Russian Revolution, there are 22 letters to Olga. Christie's said: "All are written in Pasternak's distinctive flowing hand and, although it is virtually impossible to translate the terms of endearment into English, the heartfelt and deeply lyrical nature of the letters is very moving." Pasternak scholars have long seen this

written some weeks before his death, aged 70, in 1960 from heart failure. In it he implores Olga not to worry but to be patient for the day when he is well again. He ends with the words: "I hug you closely and beg you to calm down."

The story of Dr Zhivago—a novel of the Russian Revolution filmed in 1965 with Omar Sharif and Julie Christie—parallels the love story of Pasternak and Olga, including the persecution that followed the publication of the novel. The author was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1958 but was forced by the Soviet regime to decline it. At the height of the scandal he writes, in a letter now expected to fetch £15,000, "I clearly understood for the first time that by involving you in all these terrible affairs I am casting a large shadow on you and putting you in awful danger. It's unmanly and contemptible. I love you and embrace you strongly. Forgive me."



Boris Pasternak and Olga Ivinskaya: he consulted her on everything

Fortune in a bottle turns up at seaside

By JOHN SHAW

AN ELDERLY woman was overwhelmed when *The Antiques Roadshow* examined a £6 in decorative bottle from her seaside home.

It was first valued at a pleasant £200 as just an ornament by one expert, David Battie. Then Paul Atterbury, a specialist in the decorative arts, had a look and gave his price: about £30,000.

Yesterday the woman from Skegness, Lincolnshire, was considering police advice on home security as Mr Atterbury explained: "The bottle is by William Burges, one of the most important Victorian designers. Skegness was the last place one would have expected to see such a piece."

The Victoria and Albert Museum has photographs of Burges's Kensington home showing the Batavian bottle, with a silver spider's web pattern and enamel, pearl and moonstone details. An inscription on the base gives his name and the date 1868. The owner knew only that her father bought it in the 1930s.

Soldier's diary recalls slaughter of the Dervishes

By ALAN HAMILTON

AFIRSTHAND account of Lord Kitchener's defeat of the Dervishes at the Battle of Omdurman in 1898 has surfaced after lying unseen for almost a century. It is expected to fetch £3,000 at auction in London later this month.

Lieutenant Alfred Edward Hubbard of the 10th Lincolnshire Regiment kept a diary of the Sudan campaign in a green notebook, right up to the final battle which avenged the death of General Gordon at Khartoum in 1885.

Hubbard's penultimate diary, written for his son Mabel, describes the moment at dawn when Kitchener's troops caught their first glimpse of the enemy. "Against the far range of hills, about three miles off, could be seen lines of high banners; it looked as if the entire world was coming on against us."

Hubbard estimated the advancing front to be more than three miles wide. "As they came on there was a murmur like the sound of the sea which was, I presume, their battle cry. When the Dervishes got to within about 1,800 yards of our line, the first gun on our side spoke. We could hear the heavy shell cleaving its way through the

air — then came a puff of white smoke above the enemy's heads as the shell burst in air and let loose its bullets among them. It is difficult to describe the next half hour — we could see men advancing from everywhere ... The ground began to get dotted with white-clad corpses."

The Dervish riflemen began to fire before they were within range, "but soon, as they crept up, the well-remembered sounds began — the first whistle of bullets. Two or three shots of my regiment were heard to fall."

Hubbard had no doubt about the bravery of his enemy. "A small body (about 200 men) of horsemen with desperate gallantry endeavoured to charge the whole British brigade. It was a splendid sight and we all rather hoped that some would reach our bayonets, but they simply withered under the terrible fire of our rifles. I don't believe six of the whole lot got back again."

Hubbard, born in Benares, India, in 1862, retired with the rank of major in 1912. His diary passed to his daughter on his death in 1921 and is being offered for sale by his grandson.

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Blair confirms his party's support at cost of £500,000

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR won a convincing mandate for Labour's draft manifesto yesterday when party members endorsed the programme by a majority of 19 to one.

Frantic efforts over the past two weeks, including a telephone polling campaign, produced a much higher participation than expected, with 230,402 members, or 61 per cent of the party, voting. But some MPs criticised the leadership for spending £500,000 on the operation, including £250,000 on the ballot. They were privately angry about attempts to increase the turnout by setting up a freephone voting line costing £30,000.

The 61 per cent compares with 69 per cent in the Labour leadership poll when Mr Blair was elected, and 40 per cent for the Clause Four vote last year. The ballot of party members showed that 95 per cent of participants supported the draft manifesto, *New Life for Britain*, with 5 per cent against.

The turnout was lower in the trade union section, where only one quarter of levy paying members voted, but they still backed the programme by 92.2 per cent to 7.8 per cent. Balloting among trade unions was optional and not all unions took part.

Mr Blair, announcing the findings at Labour's Millbank Tower media centre in London yesterday, said that the result showed "head and body marching together in step". The high turnout indicated widespread endorsement for

new Labour policy and party infighting should now halt. "I think it puts all the questions and all the arguments behind us," he said. "This is the party's covenant to the people. It is our mandate to stand as new Labour and govern as new Labour. What the people see is what they will get."

The document will form the basis for Labour's election manifesto but it contains no details on tax or spending. The main proposals include:

- Cutting class sizes to 30 or under for five to seven-year-olds;
- Fast-track punishment for persistent young offenders;
- Cutting NHS waiting lists by treating an extra 100,000 patients;
- Getting 250,000 under-25-year-olds off benefit and into work;
- Setting tough rules for government spending and borrowing.

Mr Blair also added fresh



Blair: the people will get what they see

pledges including an end to waiting for surgery for those with cancer; a ban on all handguns and a ban on combat knives; reduced VAT on heating and a 10p tax starting rate. But more controversial issues, such as scrapping child benefit for the under-16s, were not detailed in the document.

Mr Blair promised that he would do all he could to bring forward a general election. Asked if he would force a vote of no confidence, he said: "I don't know if we can push them out before they jump. But if we possibly can, we will. In respect of parliamentary tactics we will pursue any tactics that are responsible."

Pressed later over his position on abortion, he said that it may not be worth as much in the long term as he claimed yesterday. The decision to produce a mini-manifesto and put it to the vote in membership ballot was a shrewd exercise in party management. But the four-month debate over *New Labour. New Life for Britain* never caught fire and the ballot was an anti-climax because Mr Blair played safe.

The strategy was simple — to demonstrate that the party as a whole, as well as the leadership, has changed to become "new" Labour and to convert the party to Mr Blair's strategy before the election. What has become known as "getting your betrayal in" is intended to avoid the problems that bedevilled the Wilson and Callaghan governments when activists accused the leadership of breaking election pledges.

Mr Blair's belief that ordinary party members share his "new" Labour approach has been vindicated by the overwhelming support for the new tax plans.



The result pleased Labour candidates, from left, Megan Harris, Candy Atherton, Shona McIsaac, Barbara Follett, Margaret Moran and Jessica Stevens

Caution may become a cause for regret

PETER RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tony Blair has his mandate, but it may not be worth as much in the long term as he claimed yesterday. The decision to produce a mini-manifesto and put it to the vote in membership ballot was a shrewd exercise in party management. But the four-month debate over *New Labour. New Life for Britain* never caught fire and the ballot was an anti-climax because Mr Blair played safe.

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Centre-left on both sides of the Atlantic, Bill Clinton and Mr Blair echo each other in wanting to strengthen families and produce workforce for the 21st century while not worrying financial markets. The problem is reconciling the desire to reassure with the promise of change.

These inner contradictions are summed up by the "early pledges" — cutting class sizes for five to seven-year-olds, fast-track punishment for young offenders, treating an extra 100,000 NHS patients and getting 250,000 under-25-year-olds off benefit. Many of these aims are desirable, even though the financing methods are open to question. But the key pledge is the fifth one — to set strict rules for spending and borrowing. This limits the scope for government action. Mr Brown argues that departments should find savings within existing budgets before seeking extra money. That seems sensible but it creates over the real spending pressures. For instance, Labour's early pledge on the

NHS looks trivial by comparison with Stephen Dorrell's fuss over increasing the health budget by £1 billion. Labour is not even promising to match any increases agreed by the Cabinet today, though it will probably do so.

The document dodges tricky areas such as the single currency, public-sector pay and welfare. No clues are given about how Labour would achieve its aim of spending more of the budget on education than on welfare. The reluctance of Labour strategists to take risks with voters, as opposed to the Labour Party, has reduced the long-term value of the mini-manifesto and of the ballot. Apart from constitutional reform, Mr Blair has won a mandate for gradualism, not radicalism. Given his commanding position in the party, he could have been bolder. He may look back on the ballot as partly a wasted opportunity.

PETER RIDDELL

Goldsmith condemns the EU as a 'black hole of despair'

By JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

SIR JAMES GOLDSMITH launched another attack on the European Union yesterday and said that a vote for his Referendum Party would help to bring back power from Brussels.

His strident criticism of the EU effectively confirmed that the party is concerned with

more than just securing a referendum on Britain's future in Europe. Speaking on an hour-long phone-in programme on Talk Radio, Sir James condemned the "un-elected supercilious bureaucrats" of Europe, who he said wanted to deprive Britain and other nation states of their sovereignty and create a single European nation.

"If you look within the European Union at the moment it is a black hole of despair. I have never seen anything as bad as today. It is not only anger and fury but despair as well."

If our Parliament can no longer run the economy for the benefit of its own people, can no longer control foreign policies, then what the hell are they doing there? They are getting privilege without re-

sponsibility and are just delegates of Brussels. A vote for the Referendum Party will bring back power from Brussels. A vote for the other parties is a vote for Brussels. Full stop."

He said that his party was ready to fight the election at any time. "We are getting all our work in place. Every day is precious to us. I would like the general election to be in

May. But if it is tomorrow we will be ready."

He repeated his pledge that the Referendum Party would dissolve once a fair vote on "who governs Britain" was offered to the British people. But he did not specify what the referendum question would be.

He emphasised that his family charitable foundation would sign a cheque for £20

million if it proved necessary.

The cost so far of his enterprise, he said, was £1.5 million.

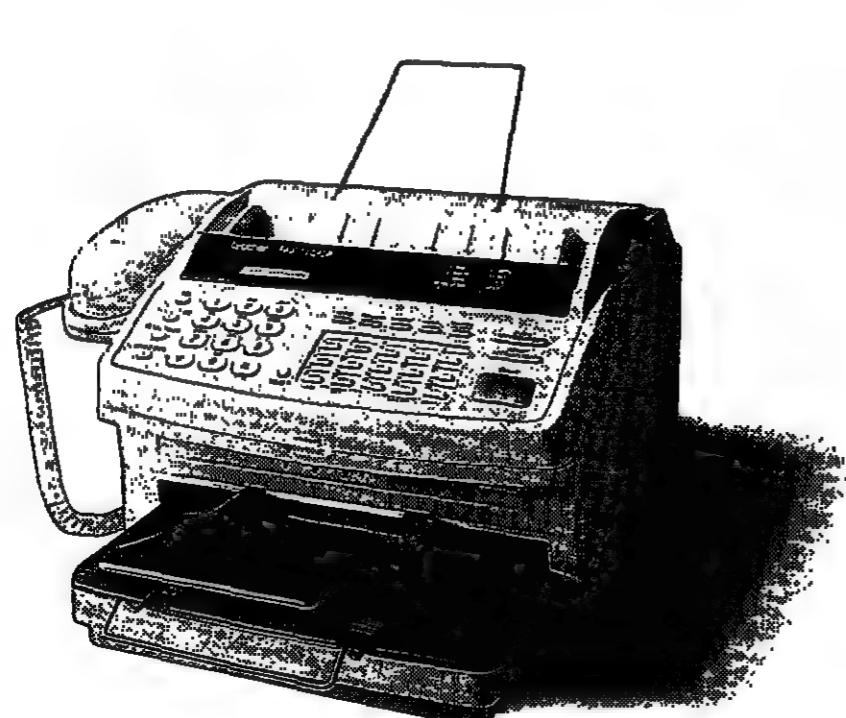
"My fear about Europe is that I do not believe you can merge 25 independent nations into one new nation run by unselected bureaucrats without any political control. The idea that we should be run as one country by unselected bureaucrats and basically be run by

Germany by virtue of its very size is unacceptable and will not work."

Sir James insisted that his party did not want power. "We shall dissolve our party as soon as a fair referendum on this issue has been offered to our people." He said that the party had appointed 250 prospective parliamentary candidates and had nearly 70,000 people working for it.



Goldsmith: radio guest



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£15,000	£164.01	£129.74	£95.95	£42.54
£10,000	£102.87	£74.16	£57.30	£27.03
£5,000	£57.97	£43.98	£32.19	£16.38
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Israeli alert after warnings of attack by Islamic Jihad

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

SYRIA and Iran have been warned by Israel they will be "held responsible" if a feared mass terror attack is staged by the Islamic Jihad. The scare resulted in the Jewish state being placed on an unprecedented alert, with roadblocks clogging traffic and heavily-armed security forces being rushed to patrol crowded civilian areas.

Israeli security sources said that the warnings had been passed via the Governments of the United States and Germany after the receipt of intelligence information that an Islamic Jihad squad had penetrated the country. The squad had orders to mount a spectacular attack to mark the first anniversary of the assassination of its leader.

Although Israel has never claimed the killing of Damascus-based Fathi Shqaqi while travelling in disguise between Libya and Syria via Malta, diplomats have no doubt that he was shot dead by agents working for Mossad on October 26 last year.

Avigdor Kahalani, the Internal Security Minister, confirmed last night that the warning messages have been sent to those regarded as sponsors of Islamic Jihad, one of the groups responsible for suicide bombs earlier this year which killed more than 60 people.

There was diplomatic speculation that if the widely-feared attack is not averted, Israel will take direct retaliation against Syrian or Iranian targets. Such is the uncompletely detailed nature of the information which Israel has received that the American Embassy issued a warning to all its citizens in Israel to

beware of the increased likelihood of terrorist attacks.

"The warnings are extremely specific and we cannot ignore the danger," said David Bar-Ilan, communications director in the office of Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister. He was speaking in an atmosphere of near panic for many Israelis as buses travelled with only a few passengers, shopping streets were deserted and traffic stretched for miles at roadblocks. On Sunday the hour-long drive between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv was taking up to four hours.

"If it saves one child's life, the country can endure traffic jams for a few days," Mr Netanyahu told Cabinet ministers. "The safety of people's lives has priority over the quality of life and I am sure citizens can understand this."

Describing the mass search procedures, more extensive than anything seen even at the height of the suicide bombs last spring, a senior security official said: "This is all being done in an intense effort to catch the terror cell."

The official added: "It is clear to us that there is a group of terrorists that has entered the area. We have no doubt that its intention is to perpetrate a large terrorist attack, whether it is in a shopping mall, a bus or another crowded place. We are not taking any chances." He said that it was advisable to stay away from crowded places "for the next ten days".

The extent of the operation has affected the economy, according to the Israel Industrialists' Association. "The increasing jitters are causing serious and significant dam-



Young Israelis keep a day-long vigil in Tel Aviv yesterday for Yitzhak Rabin on the anniversary of his death a year ago, an event that dramatically slowed the peace process

Rifkind 'flies kite' for Middle East security grouping

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN ABU DHABI

A DAY after a hectic visit to the flashpoints of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, called yesterday for a new regional security organisation in the Middle East to promote stability and dialogue, much as the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe did during the Cold War.

He said that the proposed Organisation for Co-operation in the Middle East would be an overall structure, comprehensive in membership, that would include all the Arab states as well as Turkey, Israel and eventually Iran and Iraq — although he said the last two would not be admitted with their present governments and policies. Britain, America and France, as countries with big political and economic stakes in the region, would also join, as perhaps would Russia and the European Union.

Launching his proposal in a speech in Abu Dhabi to businessmen and academics, Mr Rifkind said that the new grouping would not be an alliance or military bloc. Nor could it be in any way a substitute for the essential work of the Middle East peace process. It was not intended to detract from other regional groupings, such as the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

"Since the purpose would be to improve co-operation and thereby to promote reconciliation, it would not make much sense to be too rigid," he said. "I could see such an organisation playing a role in conflict resolution and confi-

dence building, in fighting the causes of terrorism, as well as in building the sort of economic and political networks that prevent conflict and reduce the risks of terrorism."

British officials made clear that Mr Rifkind is flying a kite rather than prescribing a copy of the CSCE transferred to the Middle East. They agreed that the present tensions might make states unwilling to sit down together, especially Syria and some other Arab countries with Israel, and the Gulf states with Iran. But they said the idea had the warm support of the Americans and several other Western states, as well as the backing of Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan.

The new body could begin with a grand conference, much as CSCE did; Mr Rifkind said yesterday it should "evolve, rather than spring fully fledged into existence".

He was at pains to tell his Gulf audience, largely hostile to the recent American bombing of Iraq, that Britain supported the territorial integrity of Iraq and would help to end Baghdad's isolation and repair its economy as soon as there was a new government which fairly represented all Iraq's people and fully observed human rights.

□ Jerusalem: Dennis Ross, the US Middle East envoy, will return to the region tomorrow to help in settling a deal between the Israelis and Palestinians on Israel's long-delayed troop withdrawal from Hebron. Israel army radio said yesterday. (AFP)

Malcolm Rifkind, page 20



Hadi Shemuda, 14, whose family were among more than 60 killed when a Cairo apartment building collapsed last week, is comforted by the city's Governor. The boy appealed on Egyptian television to relatives across the world to claim him

Taleban rejects warlord's offer of peace talks

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KABUL

THE Taleban Islamic army rejected yesterday an "insulting" offer of peace talks made by General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord who leads a military alliance that controls northern Afghanistan. That seems to guarantee a winter war.

Mullah Muhammad Mutaqi, the Information and Culture Minister for Taleban, said that the terms for a ceasefire, which sounded more like a call for surrender, must include a prior agreement that negotiations would lead to agreement on the establishment of an Islamic state. He made clear that that would be based on Taleban's interpretation of Sharia, or Islamic law.

General Dostum's secular principles are anathema to Taleban and even Mullah Mutaqi, never one to hold back an insult, heaped an uncommon amount of invective on the Uzbek leader yesterday. There is plainly no prospect of a meeting point.

General Dostum is hated not merely because he is a

former Communist; there is also his fondness for Johnnie Walker Blue Label, or Russian vodka on occasion, his ostentatious use of an armoured Cadillac and his apparently growing attachment to the grandiose title of *Pusha*, which some sycophants bestow upon him. Mullah Mutaqi calls him a bad man.

There appears to be stalemate in the battleground north of Kabul, where the general has committed many troops to serve alongside General Ahmed Shah Masood, military chief of the former Government. The war is moving to the west, where the airport in the ancient city of Herat came under air attack from General Dostum's forces yesterday. Taleban said his bombers did no damage.

Mullah Mutaqi listed Taleban's enemies yesterday as Russia, India and Iran. He confirmed that a senior Taleban representative had gone to Saudi Arabia "to talk to Saudi authorities". That is believed to be a mission in search of money.

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Dole keeps faith with friends and family in close-knit Kansas society that moulded his politics

Folks back home prepare welcome for favourite son

FROM TOM RHODES IN RUSSELL, KANSAS

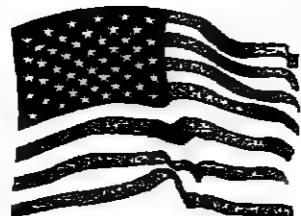
RUSSELL is the hometown where Bob Dole has always returned to cry, the small hamlet on the Kansas plains where he launched every political race of his career and the shrine he will visit for just half an hour today to vote.

Surrounded by family and friends, the Republican candidate will enter the First Christian Church on 4th Street and cast his ballot for the American presidency before returning to Washington.

There is nobody in Russell who does not know him as plain Bob, whose cousin is not a distant relative or who has not done business with the Dole family at one time or another.

Breakfast at Meridy's, the most conspicuous diner, offers an extraordinary glimpse of a cult that has pervaded the collective psyche here. Sterling Smith, who runs a "mom and pop" tyre store once sold his wares to Doran Dole, the candidate's father. Frank Kennedy, a lorry driver, is married to a second cousin, Larry Langhofer, rented the Dole house at one time and his wife still owns the desk on which Bob Dole carved his initials at grade school.

At the same table is Jerry Ross, a pallbearer at the funeral of Mr Dole's mother, Bina. His sister is married to a Dole nephew. Next door, sipping tea and eating toast, is Genna Paschal, a second cousin. They can recount in loving detail the story of how Russell raised \$1,800 (£1,100)



ELECTION 96

in a cigar box for an operation that saved his life after terrible wounds in Italy during the Second World War. And, although none was alive at the time, they will talk of the days when he was the poor basketball hero at the local high school, a salesmen at Dawson's soda fountain and helped at his father's egg and cream station.

At the same time each has an entirely personal anecdote about the family. The time, for example, when Mr Ross was paid \$300 by Doran Dole to drive his wife to a campaign address by their son in Kansas and she paid for the entire trip herself.

"This is small town America," said Mr Smith. "You know your neighbour and you don't lock your doors. You leave your gun in the back of the pick-up. There are people here who have been supporting Bob Dole for 50 years. That's never going to change."

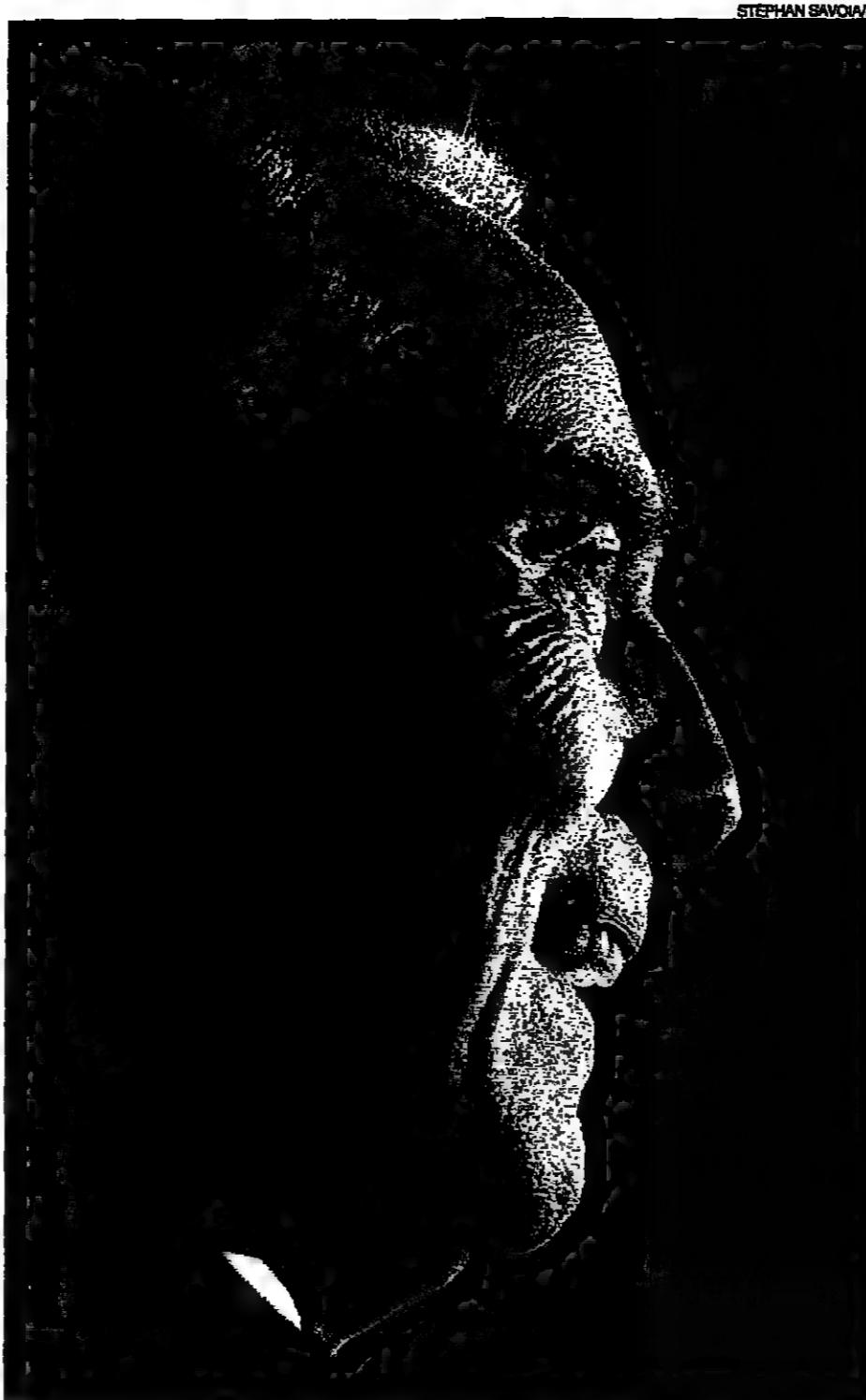
It is exactly the "better" America that Bob Dole has mentioned so often in his campaign speeches. And his

resistance to change is something that those in Russell so easily understand. Change, born of the forces of nature and history, was something to protect against. The dust bowl in the 1930s turned Russell's oil boom to powder; the war injured him for ever.

His proudest moments have always been spent in this town. Gerald Ford came to the plains to announce Mr Dole as his vice-presidential candidate in 1976. Today, however, after a marathon 96-hour campaign, he will spend probably less time here than he had done in Independence, Missouri, President Truman's native town and Mr Dole's previous stop.

This time the omens are not good; the local cinema is playing the *Long Kiss Goodnight* and even his sisters, Gloria Nelson and Norma Steele, were reluctant yesterday to offer their opinion on his chances, although Ms Nelson had said last week she was not convinced Mr Dole would win the election.

Observers have maintained that Bob Dole, the ultimate Washington insider for 35 years, has used Russell as a convenient career prop to project an image of honesty, respect and integrity. Yet while nobody expects him to retire in Russell should he lose tomorrow, the bunting will be out, the dolls for Dole will dance for him and the tradition will continue. Russell is at ease with its place in Bob Dole's heart.



Bob Dole, who will vote in Russell, the "better" America that he campaigned for

Bright future for star turn of the Republican show

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

ALONE among the high-profile members of Bob Dole's entourage, his wife, Elizabeth, will still have a bright future after the expected failure of his bid for the White House today.

She can walk away from the campaign knowing that she transformed the role of contender for First Lady, and enhanced her own chances for a political future.

Although loyal to her husband, she was manifestly better prepared than he was, and was able to mask the reputation for hard-hearted ambition that earned her the nickname "Steel Magnolia".

Mrs Dole, 60, not only expounded her husband's programme more succinctly than he did and without the aid of a Teleprompter, but she also went after President Clinton in a manner unprecedented for a candidate's wife.

During her solo campaign appearances, she needed the President over his policy wobbles by displaying a doll-sized rocking chair. "This is a Clinton rocker," she said. "It doesn't rock from side to side, but from left to right."

With her finely tailored suits and ever-present smile, Mrs Dole perfected her technique of sauntering through the audience with a microphone in the style of Oprah Winfrey, the talk-show host.

It looked spontaneous, but towards the end she was performing the routine three times a day, making eye contact, squeezing shoulders, patting backs — and barely changing a word.

She was a good sport, too, prepared to poke fun at herself in a skit that was wildly

out of character, she donned a Hell's Angels leather jacket emblazoned with the words "Bikers for Bob" and zoomed around the stage of NBC's *Tonight* show as pillion passenger for the host, Jay Leno. "Yeah, rev it baby, let's get out of here," she said. "I'm a biker from way back. I've come a long way from Harvard Law School to biker chick."

In fact, she was a very properly brought up Southern belle and extremely bright. After college she worked for the Nixon Administration in the White House and has been absorbed by politics ever since. She has a longer resume than any other leading Republican woman, having held a place on the Federal Trade Commission and two Cabinet posts, Secretary of Transport and Secretary of Labour. She has been married to Mr Dole for 21 years.

As they embarked on their final marathon quest for votes, she expressed disappointment with feminism. She said women of her generation were told they could do everything, but she no longer believed they could have a career, marriage, family, contribute to the community and still find time for "ourselves and our souls".

It is ironic that Mrs Dole's popularity has failed to pump up her husband's figures, while Hillary Clinton's unpopularity has not affected her husband's lead.

Washington wonders if one day Mrs Dole will think of running for President herself, or for Vice-President or the Senate. She would certainly be qualified to try.

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Stars forego free publicity in protest against video stalkers

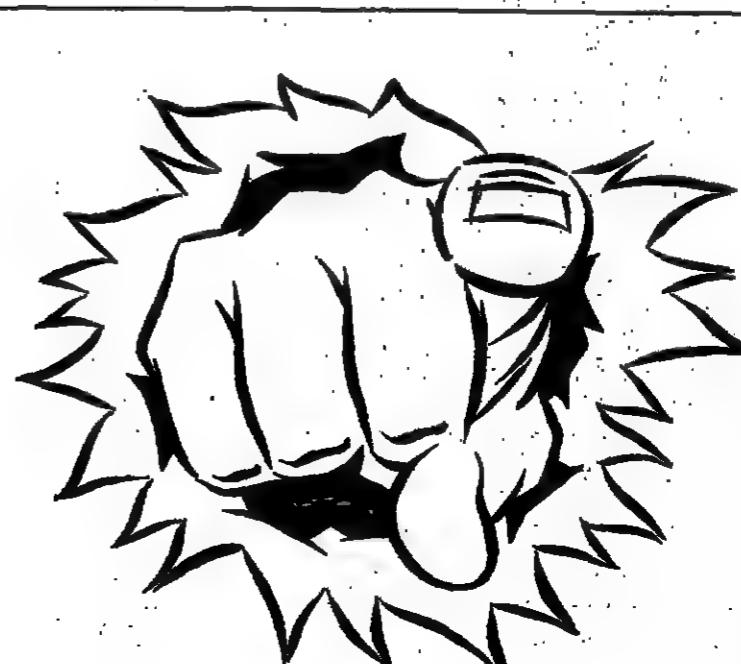
FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

HOLLYWOOD stars have taken the equivalent of industrial action against video camera stalkers and a dirt-dishing American television show. They are so angry they are even forgoing free publicity to make their complaint.

The protest against *Hard Copy*, a prime time "tabloid" television show made by Paramount Television, is being led by George Clooney, an actor. He started the campaign after the show broadcast footage of him in private with his girlfriend, Celine Dion. Mr Clooney, who stars in *ER*, a hospital serial, said the video film was intrusive.

Paramount also makes a publicity-puff show, *Entertainment Tonight* — the television equivalent of *Hello* magazine. Mr Clooney and a number of influential friends have refused to have anything more to do with the highly popular *Entertainment Tonight* until *Hard Copy* puts its house in order.

The show specialises in seedy fare. It is a major outlet for the video-camera-wielding stalkers — known as "stalkerazzi" — who have multiplied in the past two years and now hover outside the homes of Hollywood stars in the hope of recording some saleable moment.



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THE TIMES

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James Capstick
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1996

BT and MCI advisers expected to earn \$60m

By ERIC REGALY

ADVISERS to BT and MCI are expected to earn a minimum of \$60 million if Britain's biggest-ever takeover goes ahead, it is believed yesterday.

The fees have not been set yet, partly because the advisory work on the deal, which may not receive regulatory approval in Europe and the US for a year, is still in progress. The New York and London offices of Rothschild, BT's main adviser, is expected to collect the largest portion of the fees. BT also used Morgan Stanley, while MCI hired Lazard Frères.

The figure is based on the amount paid to the advisers of Nynex and Bell Atlantic, the regional phone companies in the US that are

coming together to create the world's sixth-largest phone group, Concert, the name of the company formed by the BT-MCI merger, will be considerably bigger and is likely to generate higher fees.

BT shares soared yesterday as the City had its first chance to assess the takeover terms and BT's promise to pay a 35p share special dividend as part of its effort to take full control of MCI for about \$20 billion. BT shares finished at 373p, up 22p, on volume of 82 million shares, making it the Stock Exchange's most heavily traded issue.

Analysts said the outlook for the shares was positive. SBC Warburg expects the price to rise to 420p, while ABN Ambro Hoare Govett is calling for 400p, as shareholders grasp

the potential advantages of entering the world's largest telecoms market.

The price rise was partly attributed to the promise of a special dividend for the year to March 31, 1997, even if the merger collapses. It will be paid in addition to a final dividend

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alliance with a large Asian telecoms company, such as NTT of Japan. With Europe and America covered, Asia is the biggest gap in Concert's portfolio.

MCI said attacking the local market would be Concert's priority in the US. The 1996 Telecommunications Act allows long-distance and local companies to compete in each other's markets.

Sir Peter Bonfield, the BT chief executive who is to become chief executive of Concert, said he expected Concert to receive regulatory approval in the US. But AT&T, Concert's main rival, said approval is not certain. AT&T noted that the US Government might not approve the deal unless it can determine that the UK telecoms market is as open as the American market.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDEXES

	FTSE 100	FTSE All share	Nikkei	Dow Jones	S&P Composite
Yield	3.82%				
1258.07	(-4.48)				
Closed					
8031.99	(+10.08)				
705.30	(-1.53)				

U.S. RATE

	Federal Funds	Long Bond	Yield
	81.4%	(50.5%)	
	101.5%	(100.5%)	
	8.575%	(8.58%)	

LONDON MONEY

	3-month Interbank	6-month
	(6.5%)	
	108.5% (108.5%)	

STERLING

	New York
S	1.6437% (1.6365)
London	1.6468% (1.6371)
DM	2.4919% (2.4933)
FF	8.4294% (8.3892)
BPY	2.0503% (2.0522)
Yen	167.00% (165.01)
U.S. dollar	91.2% (90.9%)

	U.S. DOLLAR
London	1.6146% (1.6140)
DM	5.1858% (5.1165)
FF	1.3752% (1.3665)
BPY	112.00% (111.40)
Yen	97.0% (97.0%)

	Tokyo close Yen 113.87

	NORTH SEA OIL
Brent 15-day (Jan)	322.10 (322.20)

	WORLD
London close	537.85 (537.65)

* denotes midday trading price

Burford chief nets £5.1m in share sale

By JASON NISSE

NICK LESLAU, the only person who is chief executive of two UK quoted companies, yesterday made a £5.14 million profit from selling shares in one of them, Burford Group, the property concern. He promptly handed a big slice of the money to the taxman.

Mr Leslaus, who is also chief executive of Trocadero, the AIM-listed owner of the Piccadilly Circus leisure complex that name, was granted options over 4.8 million Burford shares five years ago. Then, the shares were languishing at 19p, and Mr Leslaus options were priced at 28.4p each.

Yesterday, Burford shares stood at 136.5p, down 1p, and the company's stockbroker, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, was able to place Mr Leslaus stake with investors, giving him a £5.14 million profit.

Alas for Mr Leslaus, who is 73, the tax authorities are taking up to £2 million of the proceeds.

Mr Leslaus said: "I did not want to sell, but the scheme was not an Inland Revenue approved share option scheme, so when it crystallised the Revenue ruled that I had made the profit and claimed it in share, so I had to find the money for the bill."

Mr Leslaus, who was paid £390,000 in salary and bonus last year by Burford, retains 3.8 million Burford shares, valued last night at £5.2 million. He has other share options and interests in both Burford and Trocadero worth another £11 million.



Charles Brady, left, will be chairman and chief executive of the new group, while Charles "Ted" Bauer will be locked in for at least four years

By ROBIN MILLER

Invesco's US deal doubles funds under management

INVESCO has nearly doubled the funds under its management after an agreement to buy a US mutual fund manager in a \$1 billion deal.

Invesco, the London-listed international fund manager that looks after \$8 billion, announced yesterday that it has bought AIM Management Group, the fast-growing US mutual fund manager, which has \$35 billion under management and is America's thirteenth largest.

Although recent figures show the average price of a home in London has moved above £100,000, the Chancellor said at the beginning of October that he could detect no signs of a housing boom and raises the prospect of an acceleration in consumer demand before the general election.

Mr Marsh, of the Halifax, said a similar rise was expected for 1997. Last week's quarter-point rise in the base rate to 6 per cent would not affect house sales, he said. "Mortgage rates have not moved and are not likely to move," he said, adding: "The trend is upwards and we are hoping for a gradual sustained recovery."

However, Rob Thomas, building societies analyst with the Swiss bank UBS, predicted house price inflation would reach 10 per cent by the year end. "The market is incredibly strong," he said. "More people are looking to buy and demand is outstripping supply. Homes are historically at their most affordable. The cost of a house is three times average earnings, compared with the situation at the top of the market in 1989 when the figure was five times earnings."

Rises had been particularly strong in London and the South East, he said, regions that had suffered badly from negative equity. But house prices would have to rise 22 per cent to wipe out negative equity there. He said autumn and spring were traditionally the busiest times for house buying.

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with the £700 million of cash it has on its books. Last year Invesco bought the Far East arm of Aetna, the US insurer, also for £1 billion, and further deals will be raised from new debt and from the proceeds of a one-for-five rights issue.

In personal terms the main beneficiaries of yesterday's acquisition are the four AIM founders, headed by Charles "Ted" Bauer. The four, who founded the US group almost

20 years ago, have been locked in, with bonuses, for an initial four years.

Invesco, which manages £7.3 billion in the UK and has ten investment trusts and 22 unit trusts, has made no secret of its ambition to become one of the world's largest fund managers. It has plans to open offices in all major European cities, and Robert

McCullough, Invesco's chief financial officer, yesterday said Invesco would be recruiting more people on the Continent as well as forming "strategic alliances".

Charles Brady, chairman of Invesco, who becomes chairman and chief executive of the new group, said: "Invesco will be a major investment management company with the scale necessary for success as a financially strong and independent business, operating in an increasingly concentrated industry."

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City Diary, page 31

that ABF, in which Mr Weston and his family own a majority stake through charitable trusts, is unlikely to buy a quoted company. It is also thought possible that it will buy several companies for £100 million to £150 million each rather than make one large acquisition.

The company's cash pile grew £196 million to £797 million in the year to September 14, while shareholders' funds grew 9 per cent to £45 billion. Its pre-tax profit grew 15 per cent to £430 million, beating analysts' forecasts. This prompted some to increase their forecasts for the current year to about £440 million. The company spent £225 million on new assets, all outside the UK.

Operating profits at British Sugar fell slightly to £183 million. ABF blamed the

strength of sterling and the cost of changes in the operating structure. Profits in the food manufacturing and processing operations in the UK grew 12 per cent to £283 million. Twinings and Burtons Biscuits achieved record levels of profitability.

Mr Weston, 69, who has been running ABF for three decades, has no intention of retiring yet: "When I feel I have nothing left to offer, I will take it seriously," he said. The company will pay a second interim dividend of 5.25p per share (4.5p). It is payable on March 3. It gives a dividend for the whole year of 9.5p, up 9 per cent. Earnings per share were up 12 per cent.

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UK wins bridge contract

A BRITISH construction company has won a £100 million contract to build the world's fourth longest suspension bridge, over the Yangtze river in China. The contract won by Kvaerner Cleveland Bridge is being aided by the Government with a £55 million loan to cover the full value of British goods and services through the Overseas Development Administration and the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The contract will put the company, based in Darlington and part of the Kvaerner international construction and engineering group, in a prime position to win more work and will help to secure the jobs of the 750 staff at the company's Darlington plant.

The bridge to be built near the town of Jiangyin, will have a main span of 1,385 metres with two side spans of 336 and 309 metres. It will carry a three-lane dual carriage-way over the Yangtze and allow ocean-going ships to pass below.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sales
Australia \$	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	1.12	1.02
Belgium Fr	53.98	49.98
Canada \$	2.291	2.131
Cyprus Cyp	0.97	0.722
Egypt £	1.03	0.92
Finland Mkk	8.00	7.38
France Fr	8.77	8.12
Germany Dm	2.25	2.12
Greece Dr	405	380
Hong Kong \$	12.39	12.39
Iceland £	115	105
India Ru	1.03	0.92
Israel She	5.63	4.58
Italy Lira	268	2441
Japan Yen	169.62	165.50
Korea Wons	0.65	0.58
Netherlands Gld	2.928	2.858
New Zealand \$	2.48	2.24
Norway Kr	1.02	0.92
Portugal Esc	281.50	240.00
Spain Pts	7.48	6.90
Sweden Kr	21.930	20.00
Switzerland Fr	7.17	7.00
Turkey Lira	2.20	2.02
Turkey Lira	161.000	153.000
USA \$	1.73	1.60

Rates for small denomination bank notes as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Bright outlook: John Beaumont, finance director, left, and George Metcalfe, chairman, reported record profits at Umeco yesterday. The specialist manufacturer and distributor of engineering products for the aviation industry lifted pre-tax profits to £1.03 million from £618,000 in the half-year to September 30. Earnings were 6.4p (3.8p) a share. The interim dividend is 1.80p (1.25p). Umeco said further substantial business was under negotiation.

Ministers prepare new push to help Britain's exporters

BY PHILIP BARNETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is to launch a new drive to promote British exports in a drive to revive their flagging contribution to the UK's economic recovery.

Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, will this month set out new guidelines on how UK companies can improve their exporting.

His move is one of a range of government initiatives on exporting, including a forthcoming White Paper on trade, and new advice British embassies on promoting UK business.

Ministers will use the range of initiatives to combat charges that in spite of the Government's focus on business and economic competi-

tiveness, Britain does too little in comparison with competitor countries to support its successful companies.

The Government will launch a new report, *Export Winners*, which will set out in detail how some of Britain's top exporters win success abroad. Ministers hope that

the move, modelled on the Government's initiative on innovation, will offer other UK companies examples to follow.

Mr Heseltine said: "Many companies need help in entering, and surviving in, the global market place before they can go on to win. The Government is therefore committed to

helping all companies through our comprehensive package of export services."

Addressing the British Exporters Association, Mr Heseltine emphasised the success of British exporting — the UK exports more per head than Japan or the US — but said that even among companies

that did export, "too many see it only as a sideline activity, to be pursued if and when specific opportunities arise".

The Department of Trade and Industry and the Foreign Office are joining forces in two new initiatives aimed at helping British business abroad.

They are to issue a White Paper on world trade before a World Trade Organisation ministerial meeting in Singapore next month. It will set out UK policies to promote trade and lay out government aims for the meeting, including a target of full free trade between all WTO nations by 2020.

A scheme called Open Menu will, from January, link export support offered by the DTI in Britain with that offered by the Foreign Office's embassies.

MORE evidence of the consumer spending boom came yesterday from data showing the narrow money supply measure, growing at its fastest since December 1988 (Aldair Murray writes).

MO rose 0.7 per cent in October taking the annual

rise to 7.5 per cent — well above City expectations. But economists were divided on the effects of monetary policy after last week's rate rise with some suggesting the continued growth may lead the Bank of England to seek more rises next year. But the

narrower notes and coins measure, which excludes the volatile effect of bankers' balances, grew 0.4 per cent, while the annual rate fell to 7.4 per cent. housing starts rose 16 per cent in the three months to September 30 against the previous quarter.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Westinghouse loss trimmed to \$28m

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC incurred a \$28 million loss in the third quarter after taking a \$30 million after-tax charge related to early retirement of debt. Losses were \$52 million in the third quarter of the previous year. The company, which acquired CBS, the TV network, this year, said revenues for the quarter were \$2.04 billion (\$1.28 billion), with CBS helping to send broadcasting group sales soaring to \$910 million (\$66 million). Westinghouse said net income for the first nine months almost trebled to \$64 million, or 14 cents a share, from \$22 million, amounting to a loss of 3 cents a share after a 22 cents-a-share net loss on the disposal of WCI Communities Inc.

The company did not have any comment on reports that it was considering separating its media businesses, which will include the soon-to-be-acquired Infinity Broadcasting Corp, from its less-profitable industrial units. Westinghouse said power systems sales, which account for about two thirds of its revenues, increased significantly during the quarter.

TI Group stands by bid

TI GROUP, the UK engineering company, has said it has no plans to increase its £189 million takeover bid for Forsheda, the Swedish polymer manufacturer. TI, which is being advised by SBC Warburg, said it had received acceptances in respect of 63.6 per cent of the votes and 20.6 per cent of the total number of shares in Forsheda. The UK company said it has the right to fulfil the offer even if it does not achieve 90 per cent of the votes. Henderson Investors, the UK fund manager, has signalled its opposition to the terms in respect of its 12.77 per cent interest.

Peptide agreement

PEPTIDE THERAPEUTICS, the biopharmaceutical company that specialises in allergy treatment, has signed an exclusive worldwide licensing agreement with BTG to develop a new allergy vaccine for animals. BTG already provides the vaccine technology that Peptide uses under license in researching the treatment of human allergies. Peptide does not intend to complete the development of the animal vaccine alone. It is talking to larger US and European companies to fund the product's commercialisation.

Ladbroke's US sale

LADBROKE GROUP, the UK leisure and property company, is raising \$6.2 million through the sale of its freehold interest in a development in the US. The Ballston Station development in Arlington County, Virginia, is being sold to the State Teachers Retirement Board of Ohio. Ladbroke said that net rental income for the eight-storey building was \$5 million in 1995. The deal is likely to be completed by December 30. Ladbroke said that the proceeds would further reduce group debt and provide funds to invest in core businesses.

Scott Pickford battle

DON SCOTT, founder and acting chairman of Scott Pickford, an AIM company, is supporting Aerodata, an Australian geophysics firm poised to make a hostile bid for SP Aerodata, which like SP advises oil explorers, also has the support of directors Peter Rothera and Andrew Shrager, giving it 14.2 per cent of the company, if it opts to bid. But Mr Rothera and Mr Shrager may be ousted by shareholders with 52 per cent of votes at an extraordinary meeting today.

Irish society buys

THE Republic of Ireland's First National Building Society has trebled its operating size in Northern Ireland with the purchase of Cheltenham & Gloucester's Belfast branch. First National, which has about 14 per cent of the republic's mortgage market, already has one office in Belfast and sells its products through agents in the rest of Northern Ireland. C & G's only office in Northern Ireland has assets of £70 million. The deal will be funded from internal resources.

Green light for Swiss Re

THE European Commission has approved Swiss Re's acquisition of Mercantile & General, Prudential's reinsurance subsidiary. The EU said Swiss Re's share of the global market would be below 15 per cent and the enlarged company would, therefore, enjoy a dominant position. Prudential, the UK's biggest life insurer, will have an extra £1.75 billion with which to fund acquisitions. Prudential has said it is interested in buying a building society or life insurer.

Shield buys laboratories

SHIELD DIAGNOSTICS, the healthcare company working on a new test for heart disease, has bought two laboratory companies for an initial £70,500. Shield has immediately transferred the business of Guardian Laboratories to Plasmatec Laboratory Products. The previous owners may receive further payments depending on future results. Gordon Half, Shield's managing director, said the acquisitions were growing business in Shield's core area of infectious disease.

ANNOUNCING A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN, LEEDS AND MANCHESTER.

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□ Bill for BT's plans won't arrive for years □ Car dealerships need shake-up □ Mixed signals from the housing market

□ BRITISH TELECOM'S decision to take full control of MCI, America's second-largest long-distance phone company, for about \$2 billion is a strategic U-turn. In the past couple of years, BT has concentrated on building a European presence in advance of deregulation on the Continent in 1998. The strategy was an obvious one: growth was assured because operators such as Deutsche Telekom and France Télécom could only lose market share once their monopolies were broken.

Now BT has decided to switch attention from the world's least competitive market to the most competitive. In buying MCI, the company is entering into a free-for-all that will produce as many losers as winners. The 1996 Telecommunications Act, the most sweeping telecoms legislation since AT&T was broken up in 1984, will allow local and long-distance companies to compete in each other's markets.

MCI has already committed to spend \$2 billion to build the basis of a local business and will have to spend billions more to become a significant player. This is the main attraction of bringing in the British. The question is whether BT has the financial might and imagination to make a splash. While the company has vast experience in the local market, it has none in the US.

The problem is that many years will pass, and many billions will be spent, before BT will be able to judge its success, or lack of it, in the local market. In the meantime, the war will have to continue on many fronts. In the UK, BT has stated it is willing to spend \$15 billion to upgrade its local networks to provide high-capacity services

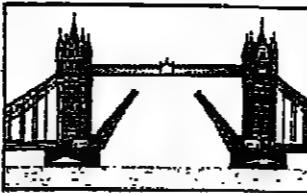
America is littered with the corpses of foreign adventurers.

BT will argue that its American and European strategies are identical. In each case, easy profits are meant to come by introducing competition into what was previously a monopoly market. Local calls in the US are the sole domain of the regional phone companies, or Baby Bells. A situation the Telecommunications Act is supposed to eliminate, and the margins are huge. MCI has to pay 45 per cent of its long-distance call revenue to the regional phone companies. While the local market looks tempting, BT should not forget that far more mobile players such as AT&T and Sprint are just as eager to attack. Margins, as a result, can only fall.

The problem is that many years will pass, and many billions will be spent, before BT will be able to judge its success, or lack of it, in the local market. In the meantime, the war will have to continue on many fronts. In the UK, BT has stated it is willing to spend \$15 billion to upgrade its local networks to provide high-capacity services

Premium call rate

PENNINGTON



town location and the buying power that big grocers enjoy. The car you drive to the supermarket, however, has been bought from a small hole in the wall in the high street. There was no choice when you bought it — just one brand per hole in the wall. If the car was new, you probably had to wait weeks for delivery, because the store does not have the space to carry all the stock it sells. This is because it is in the high street.

In an ideal world you would have travelled some distance out of town to a large facility, purpose-built or converted from another use, where there would be a range of new and second-hand models parked outside. You test-drive the half a dozen

makes that are in your price range. You don't like the clutch on this one, or the trim on the other; you still drive away the ideal car for your needs.

This doesn't happen because of our weird and outdated system of car dealership, a legalised cartel which requires retailers to pledge they will sell one brand only, and fight like sharks for the privilege. If it does back to the days when there were not enough cars being produced, and some sort of rationing was needed. Franchises, which carry the right to be part of this cartel, change hands for large amounts.

This system is breaking down, but surprisingly slowly. Joining the stock market this month is the Car Group, which has ambitious plans to trade a range of cars at out-of-town locations. Used cars, only, though. No one has yet tried the same trick with new ones, because, supposedly, this would upset the manufacturers. And yet the latter are cutting down on their dealership networks because even they recognise that this is an inefficient way to shift the 30 per cent or so of production that goes to the

private buyer. It cannot be too many years before someone tries the Car Group approach with new cars too.

Trading places

□ READING the runes in the housing market was difficult enough even before last week's base rate rise and the assumption of dearer mortgages in future. Monthly figures from the Halifax provide some clue, but this is still the strangest market we have seen in years.

For one thing, it disobeys one basic rule of economics: that scarcity pushes prices up. There is a desperate shortage of good-quality homes in the right areas — three and four-bedroom family houses in popular suburbs, say. Such homes are often selling within days, a certainty which discourages potential buyers from putting their own properties on the market until they have found somewhere to move. This increases the shortage, as there are more visible buyers than sellers.

The result should be that prices go through the roof. They are not doing so because buyers remember only too well the last time that the housing market took off and appreciated the fragility of any upturn. So most are terrified of overpaying. Last week's interest rate move, even if it had no impact on mortgages, will have increased this caution, while highlighting the attractions of the fixed-rate deals on offer.

The Halifax figures show that since 1994 the average price of a second-hand home has risen three times as fast as a new house. The builders have been saying this for years; they cannot compete, because they cannot build in those areas where people want to live, those areas where leafy suburbs are seeing the best price rises. The end result must be a housing market with a far wider range of prices, from the respectable proportions of a million pounds attaching to fairly ordinary family homes in the right areas to cheap, largely unwanted first-time flats elsewhere.

This divergence has been evident ever since the market collapsed at the end of the 1980s. Paradoxically, it offers the best encouragement to buyers and sellers alike: if you want to upgrade, it will only get more difficult as time goes on.

Citizens Financial in deal

Citizens Financial Group, the US arm of the Royal Bank of Scotland, is paying \$87 million for Grove Bank. Grove has seven branches in Boston and total assets of \$59 million.

The deal also includes the three-branch Greater Boston Bank, the purchase of which Grove announced in August. After the acquisition, Citizens will have 240 branches in four New England states, with assets of about \$16 billion.

Job in pipeline

British Gas is to have a new managing director of exploration and production. Frank Chapman, after the departure of its last chief to Enterprise Oil. Mr Chapman, who worked for Shell for 18 years, starts next week. He last worked at Kvaerner where he headed its oil and gas interests until the Norwegian company's takeover of Trafalgar House.

Results dates

National Grid is due to report its interim financial results on November 26 (Companies, Business News, November 4). Carlton Communications is due to report final results on December 4.

Bidders for Conrail may divide the spoils

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

THE \$8 billion bid battle for Conrail, the largest railway company in northeast America, has taken a new twist with the two bidders holding talks about dividing the company between them.

CSX, a company that has Sir Denis Thatcher as a director, and Norfolk Southern are holding discussions over the possibility of one side dropping out of the bidding but buying certain agreed assets from the purchaser. The outcome will decide which of the companies, both based in Virginia, will dominate the rail industry in the eastern US.

However, the companies already disagree about the substance of the talks. CSX claims that it is discussing the possibility of selling some Conrail assets to Norfolk. If Norfolk drops out of the bidding, Norfolk says it has no intention of dropping its bid but is considering selling some Conrail as-

sets to CSX if it wins. Both sides said the other initiated the talks.

The bids were launched about two weeks ago and whichever side wins will become the largest railways company in the eastern US, raising regulatory concerns.

This appears to be the reason for the latest discussions, since both bidders realise they may have to divest some assets to avoid being penalised under anti-trust rules. "We are committed to maintaining a competitive balance in the east," Northern said. Both companies are also nervous of alienating corporate clients if they become too powerful as a result of buying Conrail.

Norfolk's bid continues to look the more attractive of the two since it is offering \$100 in cash for each Conrail share, valuing the offer at \$8.1 billion. CSX's cash and paper offer has fallen below \$8 billion because of a decline in the company's share price. Norfolk also announced yesterday that it has secured \$15 billion in bank financing for its bid, nearly twice the amount it actually needs. The company said the enthusiasm of its bank backers underlines the attractiveness of its offer.

The bid battle is part of the big restructuring sweeping through the US rail industry, spurred on by rising business and profits as freight shippers increasingly use rail rather than road for the first time in more than two decades. Conrail was created by the forced merger of five ailing rail companies in the early 1980s.

But rapid consolidation is

creating a small number of rail company giants that many analysts fear will lead to a fall in competition. After two other big deals in the last 12 months there are now only two big companies in the western US and two in the east.



Simon Bentley says he expects Blacks Leisure to improve further in the second half

Football fans lift Blacks

BY FRASER NELSON

THE busy summer of sport helped to lift trading at Blacks Leisure, the sports shop chain, which achieved an increased interim pre-tax profits of £3.9 million (£736,000).

Simon Bentley, chairman, said that during the Euro '96 tournament visiting football fans increased sales of international football strips.

First Sport, its core chain, lifted margins from 46.2 per cent to 48.6 per cent over the half year. Active Venture, specialising in active fashion clothes, expanded from one to nine stores. Miss Sam, the company's women's wear wholesaler and designer, suffered a loss of £100,000. Mr Bentley said the division had been earmarked for disposal.

Mr Bentley said the second half is traditionally stronger than the first and sales are already 15 per cent stronger in the first nine weeks.

In all, 19 stores were added to Blacks' 85-strong portfolio. Like-for-like sales grew 24 per cent, taking turnover to £42.2 million (£31 million) and earnings to 8.46p per share (1.59p). An interim dividend of 1.25p (0.75p) is due on February 3.

United Utilities sells lending arm

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

UNITED UTILITIES, the North West electricity and water company, has sold the lending arm of its electrical retailing division to Lombard Tricity Finance.

The sale will net £113 million for United Utilities, the country's first "super utility", formed from the takeover of Norweb by North West Water.

Lombard Tricity, part of the NatWest Group, is paying an initial £100 million. It is expected to pay a further £13 million from the cashflow of the portfolio of customers' credit arrangements.

United is looking to sell its entire retail business along with other parts of the company in a sell-off programme announced earlier this year.

Drogheda Port

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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Flying start for BT shares in bout of frantic trading

FRANTIC trading in BT accounted for almost 15 per cent of the total turnover of the London stock market. By the close of business, 84.2 million BT shares had changed hands, compared with 64.83 million for the market as a whole.

The announcement of the group's proposed merger with MCI came too late on Friday for the London market to react. But the shares got off to a flying start yesterday, soaring 22p to 373p as brokers gave an enthusiastic thumbs up to the proposed £12 billion merger and 35p dividend sweetener.

Brokers said that BT would be effectively throwing money at shareholders over the next year. In addition to the special dividend, it has also agreed to pay a 7.9p interim in January, followed by a final of 11.95p in September of next year.

One broker said: "The shares are yielding something like 18 per cent. You can't turn your back on something like that."

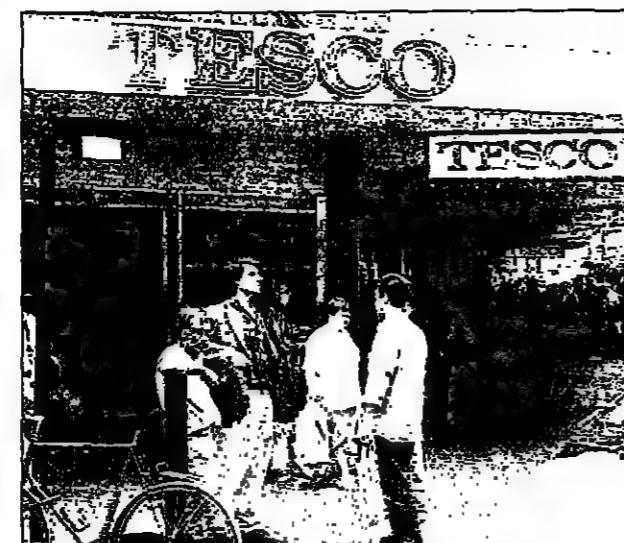
SBC Warburg reckons the shares could reach as high as 430p once the deal is concluded, while ABN Amro Hoare Govett has set a target price of 400p. But as other brokers have been quick to point out, US investors may turn out to be sellers of the newly merged company. MCI is regarded as a growth stock in the US and a merger with a tried and tested income stock such as BT may not suit their needs.

The speculation generated by the deal focused attention on other telecoms companies, with Vodafone rising 5p to 241p. It is seen as a possible bid target by one of the other US giants such as AT&T, Cable & Wireless, which has linked up with other partners, fell 6p to 483p.

But the deal failed to benefit Securicor, down 8p at 275p. There is growing concern that BT may now have got cold feet about buying a 40 per cent stake in Cellnet. Brokers say Securicor's share of Cellnet could be worth as much as £1 billion.

Telewest marked time at 14p after seeing losses at the third-quarter stage double to £54 million.

The rest of the equity market had a lacklustre session, with investors reluctant to make a move ahead of polling in the US presidential election. The lull gave investors more time to ponder the outlook for



Shares of Tesco, the supermarket group, dropped 4p to 325p

interest rates after last week's quarter-point rise to 6 per cent. It left them wondering if further rises might be on the way — a point that tomorrow's Bank of England *Inflation Report* may underline.

A volatile start to trading on Wall Street failed to offer any lead to London with the Dow Jones industrial average moving 20 points higher after

Burford Holdings fell 1p to 136.1p as Nick Lesiau, chief executive, raised £5.14 million after exercising options on 4.5 million shares at 28.4p. The shares were placed with institutions by BZW. He still owns 3.8 million shares and £11 million of shares and options in Burford and associate companies.

recovering from a ten-point fall. In the event, the FTSE 100 index closed just above its low for the day with a loss of 20.4 points at 3,928.

The pound's strength against major competitors continued to undermine big exporters, with Blue Circle Industries falling 6p to 388p, BOC 7p to 853p, Reed International 8p to 250p, and SmithKline Beecham 11p to 479p.

Anglian Water, reporting today, stood out with a rise of 10.4p to 559p. The market is looking for a modest increase in pre-tax profits of about £4 million at £130 million.

But once again the focus of attention

was on the dividend, which may be up as much as 18 per cent at 10.5p.

Thames Water, which unveiled impressive figures last week, ended 34p down at 543p as the shares went ex-dividend. There was a muted response to the latest update by British Biotech of phase three testing of Marinastat, its new anti-cancer treatment. The shares finished 21.5p lower at 207.5p as more than three million changed hands.

Brokers began downgrading profit estimates for T&G after it said that sales of automotive parts remained patchy. A downturn in diesel parts made it difficult for the group to assess the outcome for the year. Crédit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, responded by cutting its forecast by 50 million to £111 million. The shares fell 3.5p to 125.4p.

The only positive news for the group came from the US Supreme Court, which has agreed to review a settlement setting fixed payments for asbestos-related diseases.

TG Group dropped 8p to 560p after ruling out the prospect of increasing its £189 million bid for Forsidea, the investors, to raise its offer. It already has the backing of shareholders representing 63 per cent of the issued shares.

■ GILT-EDGED: Investors remained in a cautious mood, reluctant to open fresh positions before the US presidential election and tomorrow's Bank of England *Inflation Report*.

Prices continued to lose ground, partly reflecting last week's first rate rise for two years and growing concerns that others may be in the pipeline.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt finished 1.32 lower at 1018.12 as the total number of contracts completed reached 42,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished 11.16 lower at 1000.52, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was 1.52 off at 1012.11.

NEW YORK: At midday, shares on Wall Street were higher in a very quiet final session before the presidential election. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 10.06 points to 6,031.99.

Source: *Financial Times* (London)

■ TAN: OUTLOOK UNCERTAIN

Source: *Financial Times* (London)

■ LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Source: *Financial Times* (London)

■ GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Barclays & Co.)

Source: *Financial Times* (London)

■ STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Source: *Financial Times* (London)

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 6,031.99 (+10.06)
S&P Composite 705.30 (+1.53)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average Closed

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 12,559.40 (+30.13)

Amsterdam: EOE Index 581.32 (+0.01)

Sydney: ASX 2,357.5 (+18.1)

Frankfurt: DAX 2,671.84 (+11.39)

Singapore: Straits 2,075.78 (+7.61)

Brussels: General 991.727 (+18.67)

Paris: CAC-40 2,142.15 (+1.04)

Zurich: SCA Gen 785.80 (+3.20)

London: FT 30 2,782.9 (+12.11)
FT 100 3,528.1 (+2.49)
FTSE 100 3,520.4 (+2.49)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 1,747.59 (+0.64)
FT All-Share 1,938.07 (+0.49)
FT Non Financials 3,027.43 (+0.31)
FT Fixed Interest 115.35 (-0.07)
FT Govt Secs 1,357.70 (+0.29)

Business: SEAO Volume 646,400
USM (Datastream) 203.89 (+0.12)
US 1,565.67 (+0.002)
German Mark 2,491.95 (+0.079)
Exchange Index 91.3 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (pence) 4,520.00
CDS 1,1346
RPI 193.8 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987-100
RPX 193.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987-100

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Beechcroft 4
Charles Taylor 162.5
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Ultra Electronics

Trial result hits British Biotech share price

By FRASER NELSON

THE latest results from the clinical trials of British Biotech's anti-cancer drug disappointed the stock market yesterday, prompting a fall in the company's share price from 230p to 207p.

British Biotech said the results showed that Marimastat, a potential blockbuster, was still making strong progress. But some investors wanted more solid news.

The new data included the first results from treating gastric cancer. Four out of 14 patients treated with Marimastat showed firm signs of recovery, as their blood cells produced a protective shield against the cancer. A further trial involving 300 gastric cancer patients is about to begin. The tests also found that

Marimastat produced a positive response among victims of colorectal cancer. For the first time, the tests showed a relationship between use of the drugs and survival rates of its patients. James Noble, British Biotech's finance director, said: "The results are as encouraging as we could have hoped at this stage."

However, some analysts expressed concern that most of the tests gauged the progression of the disease by measuring the level of cancer-specific antigens. While there is a high correlation between the levels of antigens and of cancer, British Biotech cannot use antigen data for its licensing submission. The company itself said that the tests were not conducted in accordance with guidelines laid down by the US Food & Drug Administration. It said the results should be treated with caution.

However, Mr Noble said the results had underlined the logic behind the company's £143 million rights issue in July. He said: "When we raised the money in July, we forecast that we would have started three phase three tests by the end of the year. We have now started four."

The next stage of the Marimastat tests will use the survival rate of its patients as a yardstick of the drug's effectiveness. The phase three tests, the results of which are not expected until 1998, will monitor two groups of patients — one treated with the real drug while another is given dummy pills. The tests are dubbed "double-blind" experiments, as neither patients nor doctors will be aware which group is being given the real medicine.

John Clare, Dixons chief executive, said DNCs, the company acquired, would be used by PC World. Dixons' computer offshoot, to supply business customers. "PC World has generated a lot of business accounts, but we have not had the systems or expertise to manage the accounts," he said. The business-to-business computer supplies market is worth £3 billion. Mr Clare said.

DNCs, based in Heywood, Manchester, had turnover last year of £25 million. It employs 130 people and Dixons plans to increase staff numbers.

Dixons buys mail order firm for £10m

DIXONS, the retailer, has acquired a specialist computer mail order company for £9.7 million in loan notes and cash. Sarah Cunningham writes.

John Clare, Dixons chief executive, said DNCs, the company acquired, would be used by PC World. Dixons' computer offshoot, to supply business customers. "PC World has generated a lot of business accounts, but we have not had the systems or expertise to manage the accounts," he said. The business-to-business computer supplies market is worth £3 billion. Mr Clare said.

DNCs, based in Heywood, Manchester, had turnover last year of £25 million. It employs 130 people and Dixons plans to increase staff numbers.



Bad timing: Peter Thornton, Greycoat chief executive, says it is too early to sell its assets

Directors face charges in Torras £500m fraud case

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

THE case involving one of the biggest financial scandals of the decade in Spain, involving the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) in London before the Gulf War, face charges of falsifying mercantile documents and prices, fraud, misappropriation and tax avoidance. They are: Javier de la Rosa, Narciso de Mir, Jorge Nuñez, Juan José Folchi, Miguel Soler, Fahad al Sabah and Fouad Jaffar.

Working on the order of Carlos Jiménez Vilarejo, the new anti-corruption prosecutor, the judge has given the Treasury and La Caixa bank in Barcelona a fortnight to produce key documents. Seven former directors of the

Torras Group, which undertook investments for the Kuwaiti Investment Office (KIO) in London before the Gulf War, face charges of falsifying mercantile documents and prices, fraud, misappropriation and tax avoidance. They are: Javier de la Rosa, Narciso de Mir, Jorge Nuñez, Juan José Folchi, Miguel Soler, Fahad al Sabah and Fouad Jaffar.

Around £500 million disappeared from the Torras accounts at the time of the Gulf War. Javier de la Rosa, the Torras agent in Spain, claims

the money was used to bribe senior figures in Western countries to get their countries' support for Kuwait during the Gulf War. But the prosecution alleges the money was stolen through a labyrinth of offshore companies. The case had been delayed because Miguel Moreiras, a national court judge, was suspended for alleged corrupt practices.

Greycoat counters portfolio sale plan

By CARL MORTISHED

GREYCOAT has launched a counter-offensive against a proposal from UK Active Value, its main investor, to liquidate its property portfolio. The central London property group said the proposed "closing down sale" was flawed and would fail to secure shareholder value.

Greycoat yesterday forecast a 50 per cent rise in the annual dividend to 1.2p per share on a 12.5 per cent rise in half-year pre-tax profits to £3.8 million. UKAV has requisitioned a meeting on November 14 to vote on the proposed sell-off.

Peter Thornton, Greycoat chief executive, said UKAV's proposal was badly timed and investors would miss out on growth just as City office rents were beginning to rise. Greycoat's main asset is the £200 million Embankment Place office development above Charing Cross station.

Let to Coopers & Lybrand at £45 per sq ft, the property is well above current rental values of about £30 in the area. Mr Thornton thinks it will be 18 months before the property will be saleable as a growth investment and added: "a liquidation of the portfolio would depress prices."

"At the right time and in the right way we will seek to do what he is trying to do is the wrong time — at the start of a rental growth cycle."

UKAV currently owns about 10 per cent of Greycoat, a shareholding which it acquired when the property group was rescued from insolvency three years ago. Brian Myerson of UKAV left the board this year when UKAV challenged Greycoat's decision to sell the Buckingham Palace Road property.

Mr Myerson said that UKAV had no intention of selling its investment which he calculated was worth 185p per share. He challenged Greycoat's desire to wait until the top of the market?"

Tempus, page 30
City Diary, page 31

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Emirates places \$2bn order with Airbus

EMIRATES, the Middle East airline, has placed a \$2 billion order with Airbus Industrie, the European aircraft manufacturer, for 16 new A320-200 aircraft, making the airline Airbus's biggest customer for the wide body jet. Emirates has an option for a further seven aircraft. Airbus won the contract in competition with Boeing's 767 jets.

Emirates said that it had not yet decided whether engines would be supplied by Rolls-Royce of Britain, or General Electric Company of America. Emirates will use the A320s on non-stop services from Dubai to Europe, South-East Asia and South Africa. Each aircraft will seat 243 passengers in a three-class layout, or 272 passengers in a two-class configuration. Airbus is a consortium made up of Aérospatiale of France; British Aerospace; Daimler-Benz of Germany; and Construcciones Aeronáuticas of Spain. Airbus Industrie's sales reached \$9.6 billion in 1995.

Shearings buyout talks

RANK ORGANISATION, the leisure group, has entered exclusive talks to sell Shearings, its coach holiday business, to a management buyout team backed by NatWest Ventures, the venture capitalist. In July Rank said it was seeking a buyer for the coach holiday business as part of plans to dispose of non-core activities. Angus Crichton-Miller, the former managing director of the holiday division, resigned from the board so that he could prepare an offer. Analysts believe the sale could raise up to £60 million.

Dudley stake sale

DUDLEY STATIONERY, the UK's largest independent office products dealer, has agreed to sell a significant minority stake to US Office Products, of Washington DC. Existing Dudley shareholders will control 51 per cent of the company. The American company is to invest £50 million by way of debt finance. The new funds will be used to fuel the expansion of Dudley Stationery by both organic growth and acquisitions. Since its inception, in October 1994, USOP has made 107 acquisitions and has annual sales of £1.6 billion.

Disposals at Bullough

BULLOUGH, the industrial holding company, is raising £10.75 million through disposals. The company is selling its Remzor industrial warm air heating business to Thomas & Betts Inc, which already owns Remzor in the United States, for about £9.75 million. In the year to October 31, 1995, operating profits were £398,000 on turnover of £13.7 million. Results for 1996 are expected to be similar. Bullough is also selling Hago Products, its consumer and industrial wire products business, for about £1 million.

Merlin cancer move

MERLIN VENTURES, the investment company recently formed by Chris Evans, the biotechnology entrepreneur, has provided £250,000 of start-up finance to develop discoveries made by scientists working for the Cancer Research Campaign Cyclocel, a company formed by Professor David Lane of the University of Dundee and Professor Allan Balmain of the University of Glasgow, is working on "a potentially revolutionary" approach to common cancer treatment.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

BUSINESS FOR SALE

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Equities and gilts lose ground

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Div	%	PE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
550	470	Adnams	470	4	-4	15
525	477	Amber (IP)	477	4	-4	15
528	488	Amber (IP) A	488	4	-4	15
525	475	Amber (IP) B	475	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) C	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) D	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) E	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) F	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) G	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) H	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) I	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) J	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) K	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) L	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) M	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) N	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) O	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) P	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) Q	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) R	471	4	-4	15
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521	471	Amber (IP) U	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) V	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) W	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) X	471	4	-4	15
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521	471	Amber (IP) Z	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) AA	471	4	-4	15
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521	471	Amber (IP) PP	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) QQ	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) RR	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) SS	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) TT	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) UU	471	4	-4	15
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521	471	Amber (IP) QQ	471	4	-4	15
521	471	Amber (IP) RR				

West End set for a sparkling sale

From Baskerville to Izaak Walton, you should find an antique book to suit you at Chelsea, says Jim McCue

The Chelsea Book Fair, now in its sixth year, will be held at the Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London, SW3 on Friday and Saturday this week and may be a good place to begin the Christmas browsing.

The way to approach a book fair is not with a list of books that you hope to find and buy, nor even with a budget, but with an interested eye. There will always be something you have never seen before, a surprise, a book you have not heard of, or something you have given up hope of finding. Just looking at books and handling them is a way of learning about the people who wrote, made and owned them, even if you do not buy. Not everyone, after all, has room for the 24-volume *Nonesuch Dickens* (£5,000 from Broadhursts).

The variety of books is remarkable, from what the trade calls "roast-beefs" — classic literature, library editions, leather-bound sets — to modern novels, erotica, gardening, travel and every other human interest.

So do not go looking for things: just go looking. Seren-

dipity will provide. And when it does, you will know what to buy, even if you had no idea you wanted it beforehand. I recently bought an extraordinary book about a Renaissance pattern maker, beautifully printed with colour specimens at the Royal College of Art and bound in 'Jacquard

'Among the 16th-century books is the first history of Wales'

woven" gold cloth. I could never have expected that, or imagined it, and I have yet to decide whether it is hideous.

The famous books, such as *The Jungle Book* and *The Second Jungle Book*, offered together by Elizabeth Gant, are never going to be overlooked or underpriced (£1,000, bound by Bayntun's). But because no dealer can know every book, even in a limited field, there are always bargains for the buyer with more specialist knowledge — or a bit



Oscar Berger's pencil caricature of Churchill is offered at Chelsea by Chas J. Sawyer (£1,250); while Bernard



Shapero has an 1836 first edition *History of the Indian Tribes of North America* (£40,000), with coloured paintings

for a good chase and the exercise of discrimination. If you cannot afford Aldus, Baskerville and Pickering, who are their successors? Early Penguins are sought after. Or perhaps the Oxford and Cambridge presses, the Folio Society

of Jane Austen's *Emma*, £4,500 (Jardine) or £4,250 (Graham York) — condition is everything. For the serious fetishist, there is a copy of T. Watson Grieg's *Ladies Old-Fashioned Shoes*, 1885, at just £2,500 (Bilcliffe).

Petersfield Bookshop will have the rare second edition of *Izaak Walton's Compleat Angler*, 1627, and Nigel Traylen will have a first of Mrs Beeton. But I shall be looking out for what I wasn't expecting, and I hope you will be, too.

Snips from pages of the past

A book fair is a peaceful place to buy presents, and they need not be expensive.

At Chelsea, for example, for £20 you can pick up the Victorian *Helping the Travellers: Knitting Patterns to keep Deep Sea Fishermen Warm* (S.K. Bilcliffe), with a redolent old knitter on the cover. On the same lines, there is *Cycling and Shooting Knickerbocker Stockings* by H.P. Ryder (£125, Gresham Books).

Children's books are in plentiful supply. McNaughton's are offering *Happy Hours with Mamma*, from 1835, with steel-engraved illustrations, for £15. Pop-up books from the 1880s onwards will be at Harrington Brothers, Elizabeth Gant and Eunice & Clifford Fox. Those from the 1940s and 1950s are often less than £100.

For rather more — £1,250 — an 1877 watercolour of a steamboat is available from Clive Farahar & Sophie Dupré. The painter? The future King George V.

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■ VISUAL ART 1

One of a gender work by 37 women artists goes on show at the Whitechapel



■ VISUAL ART 2

... while the musical portraits of another woman, Milic Cosman, are exhibited in London



■ VISUAL ART 3

... and the capital also sees some of the splendid bowls created by Claudi Casanova



■ CD CHOICE

Dame Janet Baker proves to be a matchless exponent on disc of Duparc's exquisite songs

Never call them the gentler sex

Richard Cork
on the many facets of the 37 female artists on show in the capital

Now in London, at the end of an international tour that started in Belgium last year, the all-women exhibition *Inside the Visible* presents a highly diverse array of 37 artists both living and dead. Celebrated reputations are reinforced, from Hannah Hoch in the 1920s to Louise Bourgeois, surely the most venerated of contemporary women artists. But less familiar names are included, as well, from countries beyond the well-worn European-North American circuit, and the overall mood is far from complacent.

The selection opts for coolness and investigative intimacy, nowhere more so than in the opening section, where the female body becomes the focus of close-up scrutiny. The images are not reassuring. Claude Cahun, whose gender-bending Surrealist photographs are a fascinating rediscovery of recent years, seems to change her persona at will. Bourgeois may concentrate on pregnant women in her full-length bronzes of the late 1940s, but they are thin, spectral and often painted white.

At one point, Carrie Mae Weems appears to offer consolation with her gently swollen caskets arranged on a shelf. Open them up, though, and hushed yet urgent voices are activated within the veiled interiors. One monologue speaks of the fall from grace in Eden, while elsewhere Martha Rosler makes sure that even the most affluent Western home is invaded by anxiety. Using photomontage at the height of the Vietnam War, she shows an impeccable living room giving out on to a landscape festooned with corpses. Rather older — in fact dating from the early 1940s — Charlotte Salomon's book *Life? Or Theatre?* is "a visual autobiography", 200 or so pages of pictures and interlinked text.

Some of the most powerful works take the body away from the domestic scene altogether. In a blurred, jerky video and a series of colour photographs, Ana Mendieta documents the traces she has left in the countryside. She is obsessed with death. Sometimes, flowers lie scattered on the beach, like the remnants of a burial at sea. More often, expanses of earth or snow are imprinted with the outline of a reclining figure, as if the traces of a murder, suicide or accident had been discovered there.

Men scarcely make an appearance in this show. And when they do, their bodies are no less vulnerable than women's. In Jana Sterbak's video *Condition*, a man appears trapped by the cage-like structure he carries on his back, panting with futile exertion. Significantly, though, he



One of the pages from Charlotte Salomon's "visual autobiography" *Life? Or Theatre?*

seems more helpless than many of his female counterparts. The cut-out figure hanging on Nancy Spero's washing-line sculpture, next to assortments and knickers, could have seemed self-pitying. But she grins, and her air suggests that she might soon be capable of escaping from her unidentified perch.

As the show proceeds, so the human presence becomes increasingly fugitive. The first space encountered upstairs is

occupied by

Mona Hatoum's *Recollection*, an elegiac installation where balls of brown hair are dotted across the floor. Moving gingerly through them, I found myself walking into tendrils dangling down like threads from the ceiling. But the

tendrils did not

bring me any closer to the people they evoked. On the contrary, they reinforce a sense of loss, as if these fragile wisps were all that survived of otherwise unrecorded victims.

The young American Ellen Gallagher also deals with absence. Scattered among the grids dominating her paintings float disembodied eyes and mouths, taken from 19th-century stereotyped portraits of black Americans. They look at once teasing and melancholy, hinting at individuals whose existence has otherwise been forgotten.

Disquieting forms can still be found: Eva Hesse's *Addendum*, a papier-mâché wall-sculpture painted grey, gains much of its power from the cords dangling ominously from breast-shapes to end up coiled on the floor. In general,

though, the mood of the final section is optimistic.

Meanwhile, a spare, limp and seductive exhibition at the Lissom Gallery marks the first one-person show in Britain by the distinguished Korean artist Lee Ufan. Long admired elsewhere in the world, he is surprisingly unfamiliar here. But his Zen-inspired paintings have an immediate appeal. Ever since he played a major role in the Mono-ha group, a Japanese avant-garde movement that won international recognition in the late 1960s, Ufan has created an abstract world. A decade ago, the title of his series *From Wind and With Wind* indicated how keenly he responded to elemental forces in the outside world. But their densely crowded brushmarks have given way, in the more recent *Correspondence* paintings, to a radically different approach.

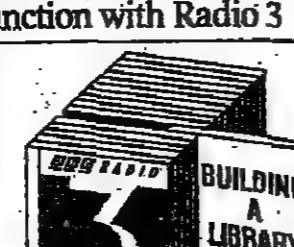
A few brushstrokes are now surrounded by expanses of whiteness on every large canvas, where they hover and seem completely at one with each other. Harmony and stillness are generated by this charged, meditative work. Ufan's paintings are very far removed from Western ideas about representation, but there are many similarities between his work and minimalism in both Europe and America.

Inside the *Visible* at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London E1 (0171-522 7889) until Dec 8; Lee Ufan at the Lissom Gallery, Lissom Street, London NW1 (0171-723 2739) until Nov 16

loud (Hyperion CDA 66323, £14.49). This is the most satisfactory modern version to go for.

If you wish your Duparc in company with other composers, then Wolfgang Holzmüller's CD of French music has six of his songs, sensitively sung (Philips 446 686-2).

Dame Janet Baker sings four of the ten songs which Duparc orchestrated on a two-CD set, but it is the Ravel and Chausson that really count in the French half; songs with piano by Schumann and Brahms fill the other disc. Her personal, but meticulous performances are what to buy until a full disc of all the songs appears (RBM CZSS 68667-2).



CD CHOICE
A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

understanding interpretations sit in a four-CD set, with Fauré, Ravel, Poulenc. It is a luxurious way of buying Duparc (Philips 438 970-2).

Two newer CDs offer the composer *tout net*, with the three extra songs and a duet resurrected from Duparc's bonfire. Both have excellent pianists, both share out the 17 songs between two singers. Noel Lee plays for the French team. Martine Mahé has immediate appeal and character. Vincent le Féder's bass tone is not always so suitable (Pierre Verany PV 793061). Roger Vignoles leads the British forces: Thomas Allen is ideal.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 250 Western Avenue, London W3 6X2 or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bog.co.uk

Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): A Joan Sutherland Survey.

THE TIMES ARTS
Milic Cosman is probably better known in the world of music than of art, because her specialisation is drawing portraits of musicians. Anyone whose memory goes back to the golden age of drawn illustration in *Radio Times* will at once recognise the style: these fluent, improvisatory drawings, so adept at catching the musician in the process of making music, are comparable only with the work of Feliks Topolski, another émigré who arrived here in the 1930s.

Cosman has now just turned 75, and the occasion is marked by a drawing retrospective at the Belgrave Gallery, which shows her to be as acute at portraying Peter Maxwell Davies and the late Berthold Goldschmidt in the 1990s as she was at pinning down Bruno Walter and Wilhelm Furtwängler in the 1940s.

Belgrave Gallery, 53 England's Lane, NW3 (0171-722 5150) until November 22

AS a teacher at leading art schools from 1954 to 1986, when he retired as Professor of Painting at the Royal College, Peter de Francia has been immensely influential on generations of students, though he has taught few to draw with his own passion and preci-

tion. And still, in his seventies, he does it: the new show consists of work from the past three years. The paintings still have the spiky quality and curious viewpoints which characterised his work in the 1950s.

Austin/Desmond Fine Art, Pied Bull Yard, WC1 (0171-242 4443) until November 28

THE Catalan potter Claudi Casanova is famous worldwide for making huge pieces which maintain only a notional connection with ceramics as functional objects. His enormous bowls seem always to be on the point of dissolution. You could be forgiven for wondering whether wind and water rather than the hand of man have produced these seemingly haphazard shapes.

It is therefore unexpected to find that Casanova's latest show is disarmingly titled *Teabowl*. Can this most unfunctional of potters, this specialist in size, actually be confining himself to the small and exquisite form of the teabowl *à la japonaise*? Well, yes and no.

Though these works began by being thrown on the wheel, it might as well have been wind and weather that did the shaping. And yet these splendidly liberated pieces still observe the scale and convention.

Galerie Besson, 15 Royal Arcade, W1 (0171-911 706) until November 22

ALTHOUGH still only in his mid-thirties, Ansel Krt looks to be in danger of founding a school. His particular reinterpretation of Old Masters like Velázquez and Goya, seen through a glass darkly so that the result sometimes looks a little like Mervyn Peake, is so idiosyncratic and compelling that quite a number of even younger artists are doing likewise. But Krt's latest show indicates that there is no acceptable substitute. Many of the pictures are bigger than seen hitherto, and several refer directly to classical myth, not to mention the more modern myth of Casanova. The eroticism just beneath the surface is more marked; the colours are muted and as finely calculated as ever.

Jason and Rhodes, 4 New Burlington Place, W1 (0171-434 1768) until Nov 30

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR



James Seymour (c.1702-1752), *Turp, a Bay Racehorse with a Green on a Racecourse*, signed and inscribed, oil on canvas, 61 by 75cm. Estimate: £40,000-60,000. To be sold in London on 13th November.

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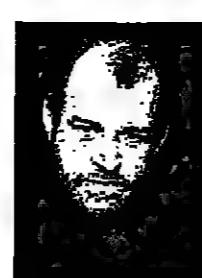
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■ FILM

Clara Bow and other luminaries from the silent age are recalled at Pordenone's festival



■ POP

Still the best voice in white soul: Joe Cocker wows the crowd at the Shepherds Bush Empire

THE TIMES ARTS



■ OPERA

Out comes the old jukebox: Verdi's *Rigoletto*, in Miller's 'Mafia' staging, is revived again



■ TOMORROW

How will the British Museum answer its critics, and restore its financial health?

Organic snap and crackle

EVERY time Joe Cocker plays live someone always asks if he still vomits on stage, so let's get that one out of the way. This is the new, cleaned-up Cocker, and the throwing-up days are thankfully long gone.

That allows us to concentrate on the voice — and what a voice. White soul at its best, rough and crackling, and in 30 years no one, on this side of the Atlantic at least, has matched it.

Gone, too, are the overblown horn sections and massed choruses which reached their crazy, cast-of-thousands zenith on *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*.

For his current tour and new album Cocker has reverted to an almost unplugged format. The instruments are electric, but the six-piece band has a down-home, rootsy feel that allows Cocker's voice more space than we have heard in a long time. He describes the style as "organic" — also the title of the new album.

This is the showcase he has always needed, for since he does not write his own material or play an instrument, the voice and the interpretation are all-important. The understated approach of the band, which featured such long-standing Cocker stalwarts as

POP
Joe Cocker
Shepherds Bush Empire

likes of Randy Newman, John Sebastian and Van Morrison. In most cases he succeeded in adding something to the originals with his smoky, impassioned vocals.

To the crowd's disappointment there was no *With a Little Help From My Friends*, the frenzied, flailing Woodstock performance which probably still remains Cocker's finest hour. Apparently he feels it's high-octane content does not suit his current "organic" approach. Its absence was a small price to pay for hearing that voice in such a sympathetic setting and in such fine fettle.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

CINEMA: Geoff Brown finds treasure among the revolting peasants at the Pordenone festival

Surfing the silent film waves

You are in Italy. Nine o'clock in the morning. The rain is pelting down, as it has been for several days. To make matters merrier, the opening attraction of the day's schedule is an obscure Russian silent film from 1922. The title: *There is no Happiness on Earth*.

At times during the 15th edition of *Le Giornate del Cinema Muto*, happiness certainly seemed in short supply. Six hundred film scholars, archivists, collectors and buffs had made their annual pilgrimage to Pordenone, in northeast Italy, only to be faced with hour upon hour of surfers glancing through matted hair in an assortment of wooden shacks. In the *Land of the Soviets*, 1918-1924, the festival's main retrospective was called; and it soon became clear that whatever the achievements in revolutionary politics, these were not years of high cinematic endeavour.

In certain films we could see intimations of the aesthetic revolution to come. We saw some of Lev Kuleshov's famous editing experiments, which used disparate shots of faces and buildings to create the illusion of a narrative unfolding in a single spot: the so-called "Kuleshov effect". But in too many cases the film's revolutionary thrust lay only in their slogans; the plot material and the techniques stayed put in the pre-revolutionary period, when filmmakers wallowed in peasant misery or parastatal decadence without wishing to storm anything.

Yet the Pordenone festival still served a useful purpose by hauling the material off the shelves of the Gosfilmofond archive in Moscow. What we never see we never know about. Since poking into Soviet cobwebs, this year's festival also revived the silent career of Herbert Brenon, an Irish-American director whose career declined once films began talking.

He was volatile in temperament, and hurried a chair at the teenaged Loretta Young in the Lon Chaney vehicle *Laugh Clown Laugh* (after seeing her



Shaggy dog story: the Irish-American director Herbert Brenon in 1924, during the making of a whimsical *Peter Pan*

dewy-eyed performance, some of us itched to do the same). But this did not stop Brenon getting plum assignments in the Twenties with such major stars as Betty Bronson, Clara Bow or Pola Negri.

In the 1913 *Ivanhoe*, filmed with massed extras running round Chepstow Castle, his ambition exceeded his grasp. But he grew to be an enviable elegant director. Occasionally he had to lavish his gifts on puerile material: *The Breaking Point* of 1924 took the biscuit here (murder, amnesia, brain surgery, etc). The last, Other times Brenon was luckier; and in two films from J.M. Barrie properties — *Peter Pan* and *A Kiss for Cinderella* — he hit a vein of delicate whimsy unusual for Hollywood in the Twenties. *Peter Pan* has its imperfections, but one smile from the elfin Betty Bronson

could melt the hardest audience. She is equally ingratiating as the cockney drudge dreaming of Prince Charming in *A Kiss for Cinderella*, a deliciously inventive fantasy film, shaded with melancholy.

The Brenon retrospective — a source of daily pleasure with not a serif in sight — forced one to consider how film reputations are made or resurrected. Seventy years ago, Brenon was a big name; by the time of his death in 1954, after years of quiet retirement, only the most rabid film buffs remembered him. To bring Brenon back to life, two things had to happen. We needed projectable prints:

and we needed an individual or an organisation happy to show them. Brenon's saviour in part was the late historian and collector William K. Everson, who kept screening the Barrie films when others let them sit in the vaults deteriorating.

This year's Pordenone festival was rightly dedicated to Everson's memory, along with that of John Gielgud, 40 years a fount of wisdom at the British Film Institute, and Fred Juncck, maverick director of the Luxembourg Cinémathèque. These people breathed, ate and slept cinema; their passionate commitment enlarged and enlivened film history for audiences worldwide, and for generations to come.

Film history also cannot be reclaimed and disseminated without the work of the world's archives. As usual, Pordenone offered the fruits of various restoration projects.

For eye-popping splendour,

nothing could match Joe May's weird and wonderful *Das Indische Grabmal*, a German epic of 1921 restored by the Munich Film Museum.

The film was variously remade in the talkie era; but

only May's version enjoys such startling architecture. ev-

otic costumes, or the piercing eyes of Conrad Veidt, cast as the sadistic Maharajah of Eschnapur, anxious to wall up his erring wife in a grand mausoleum.

Exhibits from the UCLA Film and Television Archive in Los Angeles also afforded much pleasure. We spied future stars in *The Bright Shawl* (1923), a sluggish Cuban story brightened by early appearances from Edward G. Robinson, Mary Astor and William Powell; a film miraculously brought back to life from two brittle, scratched surviving prints.

We also luxuriated in the Balinese rituals and two-colour Technicolor of *Legong: A Story of the South Seas*, directed and financed in 1933 by Henri Marquis de la Falaise, the husband of the actress Constance Bennett. This travelogue feature laced with Hollywood romance was restored with the help of the collector David Gillespie, whose British release print contained nude shots banned in America.

As before in Pordenone, showmanship was sometimes lacking. After the rediscovery two years ago of the American Jewish comedian Max Davidson, more shorts and a surviving feature were screened. We laughed, as usual, though Davidson's cause was hardly served by showing dim prints on a 16mm projector that could not keep even a sharp print in perfect focus.

And Herbert Brenon took a bad knock on the final night when his 1926 version of *Beau Geste* was accompanied by the bluesy wailings of a local group, the Zero Orchestra. Still, such a precious event as *Le Giornate del Cinema Muto* exists to experiment, and sometimes to fail. Exploring film history should always be an adventure.

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Back to that bar in Sicily

THE *Mousetrap* of the operatic stage has returned yet again to snare new and ever eager audiences. The penultimate revival of Jonathan Miller's *Maafoso Rigoletto*, we were told, would definitely be its last. But the Sicilian bar was filling up with the black-suited gentlemen once more in 1995, and the jukebox is still going strong.

As the Duke puts his nickel in, and *La donna e mobile* compacts out, there is now a lively counterpoint of audience reaction: from those who really are enjoying the surprise for the first time, and from those whose anticipation of this infallible production trick causes a ripple of mischievous delight. This counterpart is made possible, of course, because of that which exists on

stage: in this revival (by David Rizzi), superb musical preparation engages tightly with still minutely observed production detail.

The first encounter of the Duke and Gilda still causes a frisson: the chamber-musical quality of the singing of Bonaventura Bonone and Janice Watson maintains it throughout the scene. Still that fitful red glow of a distant cigarette burns for the return of his daughter.

Peter Sidhom, taking the title role for the first time, has total command of the stage at this point, bringing to an achingly wide crescendo the complex of emotions at which he has already hinted in his eloquent first scene. His final, awful discovery is as yet not quite timed to perfection; but this is on the whole a most sensitively paced portrayal.

The title role within Sidhom's *Rigoletto* is nurtured by some outstanding playing from the ENO orchestra, sharply defined by Noel Davies' urgent conducting. Bonone's unaging Duke, too, is like a coiled spring: his tenor gleams in its every indefatigable movement.

While he and Jean Rigby's dark Maddalena are old hands in this production, it is Janice Watson's first Gilda. Vocally beyond reproach, she needs only to express rather more fully in her body the yearning and vulnerability focused so eloquently in her voice. By the second or third performance (there are nine more), this could well be one of the strongest revivals of Miller's *Rigoletto* to date.

THE TIMES
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CHANGING TIMES

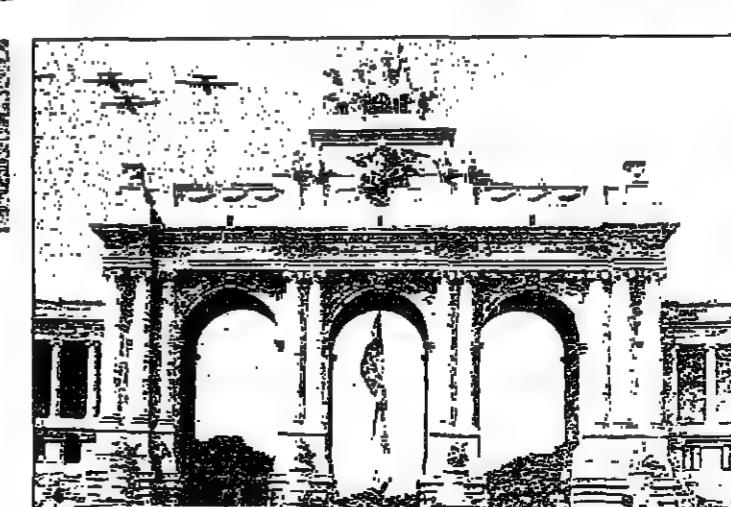
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'We still come across a few clients who prefer the Legal 500. They prefer its layout. But there it is: you can't please everyone. No-one has yet suggested that any other directory is better researched or more objective and reliable than ours. By way of criticism, some have said it's becoming rather heavy. Unfortunately, they're right. On the other hand, the Legal 500 is ever heavier.'

We are now recruiting our researchers from a Long Lane for the next edition. If you would be interested in joining us, please send me your cv. We need lawyers with several years' experience in the profession who enjoy talking to leading practitioners and getting their recommendations. Writing skills are useful, but less important than the ability to do accurate research.

Michael Chambers

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Top ten City firm handling many of the world's major projects seeks 2-5 year qualified solicitor for non-contentious work of highest quality.

Commercial Litigation: West End

Niche commercial West End practice seeks energetic & commercially aware lit assistant, 1-2 yrs' ppe to handle varied contentious work for major commercial clients.

SHORT-TERM OPPORTUNITIES

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Newly established practice, based in the Home Counties, seeks an experienced assistant solicitor. Individuals will be assisting a partner with a transaction involving a substantial number of properties. Contract to start in November until January 1997. Ref: 32680

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

18 month overseas contract for solicitor with 3-8 years' ppe in banking related litigation. Position will be based in the in-house legal team of an international bank and candidates will be working as part of a team but will be taking responsibility for specific cases. Ref: 18193

OIL/GAS

International company seeks a solicitor/barrister with a minimum of 7 years' ppe, with relevant sector experience for a 3-6 month contract. Good drafting and negotiating skills essential. Position will be UK based. Ref: 32231

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Leading insurance group seeks a solicitor/barrister with specialist professional negligence experience, ideally in relation to solicitors and valuers. Candidates should have between 4 and 7 years' relevant ppe. Position is to cover for a maternity leave to start immediately. Ref: 32216

SECURITIES

Well-established finance house seeks an experienced banking lawyer, with securities experience, to cover for a 6-9 month maternity leave, to start in December. Financial services and/or investment banking experience would be useful. Ref: 32577

CORPORATE

2-4 year qualified solicitor sought by this international firm, to be based in their London office. Contract will be for 3-6 months and candidates should have a strong corporate background with experience gained in a City firm environment. Ref: 31949

BANKING

Non-contentious banking lawyer sought by this City firm for a 3 month contract. Candidates should have a minimum of 3 years' ppe and will be working alongside a corporate partner on transactional issues. Immediate start. Ref: 31977

IT/IP

Solicitor/barrister, with a minimum of 3 years' ppe, is sought by a regional office of this national firm. Contract is for 3-6 months. Candidates should have up-to-date experience in both IP and IT, ideally both contentious and non-contentious. Ref: 32278



SPL is a QD Company

A case of sour grapes?

LAW

The battle for the Bar



Healing: warned off

William Healing, who went through last year's Bar selection process, says the system is in obvious need of reform

Don't do it," a barrister told me before I decided to try for the Bar. His advice was almost prophetic in the light of the Bar Council's attempt this autumn to introduce a better selection scheme for pupil barristers. PACH (the pupillage applications clearing house) was designed to ease the annual deluge of applications by aspiring barristers. But it seems to have given all the convenience to sets of chambers, not students, and, claim critics, may have reinforced the age-old Oxbridge bias in selection.

The Bar is a popular career — there were 1,800 applications this year for 850 trainee places or pupillages. Students see lucrative rewards and intellectual pursuits ahead, but a large minority enter Bar school without the required determination and in the belief that they will walk into a pupillage (training).

The Bar is still having to compete hard for the best. Undergraduates say: "If I can become a solicitor-advocate, why be a barrister?" Faced with solicitor competition in the courtroom, selection for the Bar is tougher than ever. But are the right applicants making it through pupillage and into the profession? Put another way, what gets you into the Bar, apart from hard



James and Joanna Nicholls: "Can we afford, like younger aspiring barristers, to resign ourselves to insecurity?"

Her husband's desire to be a barrister is proving a test of will, says Joanna Nicholls

Our dining room table long ago disappeared under the weight of my husband's law manuals, but we have never lost sight of our life. Ever since he began studying law part-time two years ago, my husband has stressed that our marriage — and any family we might have — would always come first. He would never "pay the final price" and jeopardise our life together, just to achieve his long-held ambition to be a barrister.

I have always trusted him and had no hesitation in supporting him in whatever way I can. My husband spent five years working in insolvency — an area containing the kind of law which most interests him — while we manoeuvred ourselves into a financial position which would enable him to return to college. The Bar is supposedly crying out for people with real commercial experience.

Earlier this year he came second in the prestigious *Times* Law Awards with his entry on The Future of Advocacy. The prize money was most welcome, but more important was the indication this gave of his grasp of current Bar issues. A few

months later, he won one of the coveted Middle Temple scholarships to study at Bar school. Again, it was the encouragement this conveyed that mattered.

His application for the new pupillage clearing scheme (PACH) was, we thought, a winner. A senior partner at a top law firm had offered to be a referee. My husband could list strong contacts at just about every City law firm and though he tried not to overplay his hand, his application looked strong.

Interviews came in. There were a couple of good second interviews and a promising mini-pupillage where the pupil master rang to praise his work. By last week, when the PACH letters with first-round offers went out, we were confident.

work? Luck can still play a part. Chance meetings with barristers in a pub, street or classroom can secure interviews. I know several friends from former polytechnics who achieved pupillage this way. They made their own luck without the Oxbridge keys to open doors.

Discrimination still shuts out some candidates. The Association of Women Barristers pressured the Bar Council in 1993 to respond with a detailed equality code, but casual and everyday discrimination will be harder to eliminate. Racial discrimination seems to have disappeared, in numerical terms at least.

Of greater long-term concern is the consistently poorer pass rates for ethnic minority students at Bar school. The school is now seeking to remedy the problem with a

survey of students' backgrounds, incomes and even how they previously pictured a typical barrister. Psychologists are inspecting the results, but do you not need an expert to tell you that the public perception of barristers is of a privileged, white elite.

The school's 1994 inquiry into discrimination found that some black students felt "isolated and financially and socially handicapped". So if some students find grounds that have nothing to do with intellectual ability or personality, prejudiced Bar students may share the blame.

The Bar as an institution needs to reform its recruitment methods or it risks its future independent status.

The leap from Bar school role-playing to pupillage reality is too large. Worse, many students do not appreciate how

narrowly they pass the Bar finals exam. A secondment to solicitors' offices, chambers, courts, prisons, probation officers and tribunals would help pupils to relate their insular classroom skills to the functioning legal world.

Today only half of all pupils get a subsistence wage of £6,000 a year. Barristers risk getting not the best pupils but those willing to take out huge loans or enjoy parental support. Civil rights and commercial chambers offer decent funding and get good pupils from which to pick tenants. So why not all sets? Pupils used to pay for their internships, but it is time to move on.

The Bar Council should lay down the law and not make mouthless "recommended" levels of funding. Future Bar students will need resilience and courage. Those from mi-

nority groups will need these in abundance. Bar training hits the confidence of all but the brashest.

Those who retain from their arduous experience a fair and open mind might in future choose applicants without the prejudices which exist today.

The Bar must select from a wider source if it is to survive by serving justly the people who seek the help of the law.

A case of sour grapes?

MARTIN MEARS, who promised to maintain a concerted opposition when he was defeated in the Law Society's presidential election this summer, has launched his first salvo against the current incumbent, Tony Girling.

He and Robert Sayer, the former vice-president, have issued two "fact sheets" — which boast the slogan "the truth, no economy, no varnish, no concealment" — about Law Society affairs.

They harangue the solicitors' indemnity fund for mis-calculating this year's indemnity premiums and accuse Mr Girling of issuing disinformation over the vote on splitting the Law Society's representative and regulatory functions.

Recently they sent a private circular to members of the Law Society council in which Mr Mears mounted a personal attack against Mr Girling over the Law Society's treatment of a senior staff member.

Great refuge REFUGE, the charity which helps battered women, needs £130,000 a year just to balance

its books. Much of it comes from fundraising and individual donations. The family law department of Charles Russell — which celebrates its 25th birthday this year — is sponsoring a concert by the Medici Quartet tomorrow, at 8pm, in its offices at 8-10 New Fetter Lane.

The concert will be followed by a reception and buffet at which Sir Nicholas Wilson, the High Court judge, will talk about the charity's work. All proceeds to Refuge. Details of tickets (price £60): 0171-203 5000.

Judge ye not...

■ Lord Justice Phillips, left, may have found the Maxwell trial to be all-consuming, but even he was taken aback to find himself introduced at the Biennial Conference of the International Bar Association in Berlin as Lord Maxwell who presided over the Phillips trial. "I will," he quipped, "be contacting my libel lawyers immediately."

City law firms Cameron Mackay Hewitt, Denton Hall and McKenna & Co comes to fruition. The partners are said to be on the point of voting on whether to go ahead.

Patent bid

THE Chartered Institute of Patent Agents has launched a bid to win the right for its members to conduct litigation in the Chancery Division of the High Court, including the Patents Court, and to conduct appeals from the High Court and the Patents County Court. It has submitted an application to Acfer, the Lord Chancellor's advisory committee for legal education and court, and is hoping to hear its advice on the application soon.

All work...

THE American law firm White & Case is reported to be about to pay its newly qualified English solicitors New York rates. However, all that glitters is not gold.

Where the City law firm Clifford Chance, for example, pays its new lawyers £28,000, the American firm is going to pay £45,000. In return, most US firms will want them to bill a minimum of 2,300 hours a year instead of the average of 1,380 expected in UK firms.

SCRIVENOR

STEUART & FRANCIS

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



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Stop judging people by their appearance

Last month, a judge in Houston, Texas, ordered an Orthodox Jew to remove his skull cap before he gave evidence in a civil trial, on the ground that the jury might otherwise think he had religious authority. The state of dress (or undress) of those who come to court and other aspects of their demeanour, have concerned many judges over the years, usually for reasons as bad as those which troubled the Houston judge.

The judge relied on a 1975 decision by the Court of Appeals of New York that a court could prohibit an advocate who was also a Roman Catholic priest from wearing a clerical collar when acting for a defendant in a criminal trial because "a juror might view differently statements made by a member of the clergy". But any such principle plainly has no application when what is worn in court indicates religious beliefs rather than religious authority, and when those beliefs oblige the person to keep his head covered.

Although it is easier to justify regulation of the dress of a professional advocate than of a witness, the California Court of Appeal held in 1984 that a judge has no right to refuse to allow an advocate to wear a turban in court, even when the advocate refused to confirm that he did so for religious reasons.

Associate Justice Butler explained that to require a lawyer to disclose religious beliefs as a condition precedent to being allowed to represent a client in court "returns us to those troubled times our ancestors fled in their search for freedom from religious oppression". Some American courts have imposed more general dress codes. In 1981, the Court of Appeals in Washington State held that a judge was entitled to refuse to hear a litigant in person in a civil case who declined to wear a jacket and tie and insisted on wearing a shirt with an open collar. In Arkansas in 1990, a judge found a female litigant in contempt because she was not wearing a bra and her breasts were "obviously showing".

Even imitation is not necessarily any form of flattery, as demonstrated by the Chicago Seven trial in 1969, when two of the defendants came to the court wearing judicial robes. They were punished for contempt because, during a recess, one of the defendants "removed his robes, dropped them on the floor and walked all over them. Underneath the robes he was wearing a Chicago policeman's shirt".

In 1988, the Court of Appeal in London allowed an appeal by a defendant who had been convicted of defrauding the Department of Health and Social Security by claiming supplementary benefit as a married woman

with three children. The defendant was in a male prison and had a previous conviction for rape but claimed he was a woman. The trial judge refused to allow the defendant to appear in court dressed as a woman "in a frock". The Court of Appeal concluded that the judge should have made it clear that the defendant would be allowed to give evidence wearing female clothes.

Some sensible judges have recognised that parties to litigation may, for perfectly proper reasons, appear in an unusual manner. In Southwark Crown Court in September, a defendant went on trial in a bed brought into the courtroom. Because the defendant was suffering from a back injury, he lay in a bed which was raised so that he could see the proceedings. This may well be the first trial in this country in which a defendant has remained in bed, although judges have given injunctions late at night, while dressed only in their pyjamas.

The defendant in Southwark Crown Court was unable to stand up. In 1985 the Court of Appeal decided that the Cambridge County Court was entitled to refuse to hear a litigant's claim because the litigant refused to stand while addressing the judge. The litigant explained that he had "no respect for this country or its civilisation or its courts", and so he would remain seated. After allowing the litigant to address them sitting down (so as to avoid prejudging the fundamental issues raised by his case), the judges of the Court of Appeal concluded that "if a court orders someone to stand when addressing it or giving evidence, that order is no different from any other order of the court. It is something which has to be obeyed." There are similar cases in Canada and in the US where defendants have been punished for contempt by refusing to stand when the judge entered the courtroom.

Other than in extreme cases where the ability of the court fairly to determine the issues would be impeded, judges should allow people to come to court dressed as they please, sitting down or lying down. The risk of the appearance of bias inherent in this context is indicated by the case of the Michigan Judge who was suspended from office in 1976 for 18 months for a series of injudicious decisions, including a reduction in a defendant's bail bond from \$10,000 to \$500 on condition that the defendant had "his hair cut in a fashion similar to that of the judge".

Courts should refrain from judging litigants and witnesses by their appearances.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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Applications must be received by the 26th November 1996.

It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the week beginning 9th December 1996.

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Windsor Life is set on a path of acquisitions likely to arise from the continuing restructuring of the UK life assurance industry. Three major acquisitions have been successfully completed over the last four years: Great Western Life, Aetna Life and more recently Crown Financial Management. These acquisitions and the transfer of other life assurance portfolios have increased assets under management from £300 million to £2 billion over this period.

The Company's acquisition strategy gives rise to complex legal issues particularly in the areas of corporate and property law. Windsor Life now needs to establish an in-house legal resource. This is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious solicitor with 3-5 years post qualification experience to develop a new role.

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Windsor
LIFE ASSURANCE

Frances Gibb on how the insurance industry is helping 'no win, no fee' cases

Improved access to justice

Thousands of people too rich for legal aid but too poor to go to law are now bringing claims on a "no win, no fee" basis. More than 11,000 cases have come in, the Law Society says, since the Lord Chancellor's reforms took effect last year — a turnover of 1,000 a month — and the rate is rising.

The first "no win, no fee" group action — by lung cancer victims against tobacco companies — has been announced by the law firm Leigh Day, David Hartley, of the Law Society, said: "Many of these claims — which cover the whole range of accident cases — would never have got off the ground. Many people were frightened of taking legal action."

"No win, no fee" work covers personal injury, insolvency and human rights cases. Solicitors charge no fees if they lose, but up to double if they win. The extra fees — the uplift — come out of the damages recouped for the client. But the extra should not exceed one quarter of the damages.

So far, only a few cases have been concluded and it is too soon to judge the success rate. Typical of those being brought is that of Maureen Falconer, 57, a part-time cleaner who tripped on a pavement and badly fractured her ankle. Although on low earnings, her capital put her beyond reach of legal aid.

Simon Brennan, her solicitor, did the case on "no win, no fee" and won £6,000 compensation from Liverpool City Council. He said: "If the 'no win, no fee' scheme had not been in place, there would have come a point where costs would have escalated and if the other side hadn't settled, then the risks might have been too great to go on." Mrs Falconer accepts that she,

could not have pursued the claim all the way. "I couldn't have gone to court — I was worrying about what would happen if I had to pay all the costs."

In fact, under the "no win, no fee" agreement, her costs were protected by insurance. And it is this involvement of the insurance industry which is proving crucial to the success of the reform.

The biggest obstacle with "no win, no fee" was seen as the risk of having to pay an opponent's costs if the case was lost. Yet if someone was already deterred from legal action because of that risk, how would "no win, no fee" help? But a whole new market in insurance has been unleashed by "no win, no fee".

The Law Society runs its own Accident Line Protect, under which clients — for a premium of £85 — can insure against the other side's costs and own expenses. All 2,000 solicitors who are members of its Accident Line network (a panel of approved personal injury firms) can use the policy.

The scheme is not available for other solicitors though; nor does it cover medical negligence or other kinds of claim.

Also in the market is Litigation Protection Ltd, the company first out with a conditional fee insurance for all types of action allowed under the new laws. Some 500 policies have been taken out covering insolvency (a growing "no win, no fee" area for company clients), medical negligence cases and accident claims.

Last month it launched a scheme with Action for Victims of Medical Accidents, which gives up to £100,000 worth of cover against an opponent's costs, own expenses, counsel's fees and indemnity for expert witness fees where a case is lost.



The first "no win, no fee" group action against tobacco companies has been announced

Premiums start at £850 for £10,000 cover, rising to £6,000 for £100,000 cover. AVMA screens the cases, recommends whether they should be taken on, and ensures that cases are handled by one of its panel of specialist solicitors.

Hand in hand with the burgeoning of new ventures in legal services has come brand marketing of panels or networks of solicitors — which can improve access to the law for the public. One of the first was National Accident Helpline, with has about 60 personal injury firms in its group. Advertising and its free 24-hour helpline bring in 3,000 calls a month resulting in 650 new cases a month. Of these, 130 are handled on a "no win, no fee" basis.

There are still teeth problems, however. Paul Bolen, of Fresh Carwright, has just won a £7,500 medical negli-

gence claim for a woman after the wrong operation was performed on the nerves of her wrist. She pays a quarter of that to him as the "split" on his fees. But the health authority is jibbing at paying her Litigation Protection premium of £1,500. "We believe that morally, the other side should pay," Mr Bolen said. "They took an indefensible case and didn't even bother to call their witnesses." The issue is awaiting a decision.

Then there is the question of fees. Will solicitors abide by the guideline to take no more than 25 per cent of damages? David Marshall, of Anthony Gold, Lerman & Muirhead, said: "It's not a question of automatically doubling what we would normally charge. It could be between 20 and 50 per cent more, depending on the risk involved, the kind of case and the damages likely to be recouped. But, if we win some and lose some, it proba-

bly justifies charging up to 100 per cent more."

It is still early days for a verdict, but the signs are good. Lord Mackay of Clashfern has indicated that he wants to widen the scheme to other civil disputes but is awaiting the first research into how it is working. Both the Law Society and Litigation Protection would welcome that. "It has greatly improved access to justice as well as the public perception of the legal profession," Brian Raincock, managing director, said.

Ian Pears of Shoosmith and Harrison, Northampton, who signed up the first "no win, no fee" deal last July (and 200 others since), said: "We have helped a very large number of clients to pursue legitimate claims which they could not have otherwise afforded. We have allowed victims to knock on the doors of the court, rather than try to push open some heavy floodgates."

Are there votes in legal aid?

The public is opposed to cuts, says Phillip Sycamore, vice-president of the Law Society

If the Government wants to crack down on legal aid, then you can bet that nine times out of ten, they will crack down on the wrong people." That's how one member of the public reacted to the Government's plans for the biggest shake-up in legal aid for 50 years. And new research suggests that this is a representative view.

We know from the Queen's Speech that this Government won't be legislating on this subject before the election. But only the day before the Queen's Speech the Lord Chancellor, writing in *The Times*, recorded his commitment to the reform programme.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern has referred to "a failure of public confidence in legal aid", and its "low priority with the public". Gary Streeter, MP, Parliamentary Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department, demonised legal aid applicants as "state-aided rotters".

So is there widespread support for government action? At first, Mr Streeter suggested that opposition came only from professional vested interests: "If the Law Society is against it," he told Parliament, "it is pretty firm evidence that we are on the right track."

However, September saw the publication of a joint statement made by leading national organisations representing advice agencies and groups helping victims of injustice. The joint statement condemned the White Paper's plans as unworkable and unjust.

Now, two independent research studies demonstrate the overwhelming public support for legal aid, and highlight opposition to the proposals in the White Paper. Even when attention was drawn to government worry about the cost of legal aid, 91 per cent of respondents in a Gallup survey agreed that "legal aid is a vital part of helping people get justice".

People questioned by Gallup were clearly against the Government's proposal to make unsuccessfully legally

aided litigants pay the other side's costs. The Government had suggested that legal aid was abused by people with trivial cases. This proposal was a cornerstone of their effort to save money by deterring people from using legal aid.

But the public were quick to see through the plan — 81 per cent of those in the Gallup survey agreed that it would deter people with good cases. People in the discussion groups had been shocked by this proposal, which they found "harsh and vindictive". Reactions included the following: "If you can't afford to pay before the case, and so you get legal aid, how are you supposed to pay if you lose?"

"You will be frightened to go to court no matter how strong your case is." The Gallup poll found that three out of four people believed mistakenly that there are currently no controls over trivial cases. Only a minority were aware that there are checks on whether a case was winnable or whether what people hoped to gain was worthwhile — although both are part of the legal aid scheme.

Unsurprisingly, therefore, a small majority thought that that an initial fee, as proposed by the Government, should be paid by the legally aided litigant. But a similar number thought that even £10 to £20 would be too much for someone on social security or a pensioner.

The Lord Chancellor has spoken frequently of the need to restore public confidence in legal aid. If he is guided by the findings of this research, he will change his approach. The public have not been taken in by scare stories, and they still believe in legal aid's vital role in society.

People may object to trivial cases getting legal aid, and would support changes to outlaw abuse. But they do not support measures which will ration access to justice.

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They require a minimum of two years commitment and although it is easier for native Australian/New Zealand applicants to obtain work permits, some of the firms will sponsor visa applications for applicants who can demonstrate "unique" experience.

Garfield Robbins has significant experience in dealing with the Australian firms and Gavin Crocker will be visiting all of the top ten law firms in Australia in December, taking the cv's of candidates and speaking to the relevant partners on their behalf. Applicants who wish to find out more about working "down under", or Australians looking to return home, should contact Gavin at the London office or by email on gavinc@garfieldrobbins.co.uk.

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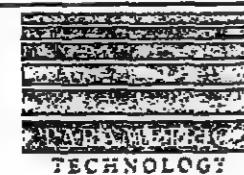
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This City firm has emerged strongly out of the recession and has embarked on an ambitious marketing and client care programme which has produced results beyond all expectations. Its corporate department is extremely busy and client may well with 1-3 years' experience be offered the opportunity to join a well-managed team handling a challenging range of mergers, acquisitions and joint venture work. The work ethic and team spirit will appeal if you are feeling underused at your current environment. (Ref:0274)

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RACING: PROGRESSIVE FILLY LANDS LUCRATIVE SANTA ANITA PRIZE FOR NEWMARKET TRAINER



MICHAEL TWEED

Stevens raises his whip to celebrate the memorable victory of Donna Viola, trained by Wall in Newmarket, in the Yellow Ribbon Stakes at Santa Anita, California

Donna Viola ties up Yellow Ribbon

By JULIAN MUSCAT

CHRIS WALL, the Newmarket trainer, pulled off a stunning victory in California late on Sunday when he saddled Donna Viola to win the Yellow Ribbon Stakes, among the most important events for turf fillies in the American racing calendar, at Santa Anita.

Ridden by Gary Stevens, Donna Viola finished fast and late to defeat the locally-trained Real Connections by half a length to provide Wall, 37, with his biggest success in ten seasons with a licence. Tiarimaris, the globe-trotting Irish filly, was withdrawn from the field after running a temperature on her arrival.

"It was a huge thrill," Wall said from California yesterday. "I've won the Italian 2,000 Guineas with Candy Glen but this is the highlight of my career." Donna Viola's earnings of

\$360,000 (about £220,000) effectively doubled Wall's prize-money haul for the 1996 season in Europe. She also recorded her trainer's nineteenth win of the year, which advanced him to his previous best total.

However, the four-year-old filly has now left Wall's stable to join the Californian string of Ben Cecil, nephew of Henry. In a deal negotiated by bloodstock agent Andy Smith, Donna Viola was sold to London-based broker Gary Tanaka after her victory in the Prix de l'Opera at Longchamp last month.

Wall indicated that the prize-money won by Donna Viola did not redeem Tanaka's outlay, but there is no doubt she would fetch considerably more on the market now.

Donna Viola's dismissal of the top American turf fillies rounded off a particularly successful autumn for

"I met Mr Tanaka for the first time when we had lunch on Saturday," Wall said. "He has some good horses with Ben, whom I knew when he worked in Newmarket. Now it's up to Ben to carry on the good work." After a slow start, Cecil's West Coast stable

Nap: CATHIA (2.05 Redcar)
Next best: Mr Teigh (3.05 Redcar)

has flourished. He took up the reins earlier this year on the sudden death of Rodney Rash, to whom he had been assistant.

Donna Viola's dismissal of the top American turf fillies rounded off a particularly successful autumn for

British-trained horses abroad. The filly was herself one of five British group winners at Longchamp on Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. More recently, Pilsudski annexed the Breeders' Cup Turf and Wandering Star the E. P. Taylor Stakes, both at Woodbine, in Toronto.

Ironically, Donna Viola would have contested the E. P. Taylor had she not changed hands after winning the Prix de l'Opera last month. "Before the deal we had to think of the shipping costs," Wall explained. "It would have been far less expensive to join the European challenge for the Breeders' Cup meeting in Toronto. As it was, Mr Tanaka had to pay \$15,000 to supplement Donna Viola for the Yellow Ribbon."

With 35 horses, Wall is some way removed from the might of the bigger stables. Yet in winning the grade one prize, Donna Viola succeeded where

the likes of Barathra, Dancing Brave, Ezraud, Milligram, Opera House, Sayyedati and Sonic Lady failed. They were among British-trained horses routed in the four Breeders' Cups staged in California.

"We were lucky with the weather," Wall suggested. "We flew from a mild autumn back home to a period of cool weather in California. We would have had more problems had we travelled from a frost-bitten Newmarket to a temperature in the mid-80s, which is the average in California at this time of year."

Closer to home, the David Nicholson-trained five-year-old Castle Sweep has been installed the 9-4 favourite with Coral for the £20,000-added Tote Silver Trophy Handicap Hurdle over 2½ miles at Chepstow on Saturday. A field of 20 was nominated at yesterday's six-day entry stage.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

suggests the best value in the ante-post market

	Course	Hurdle	Turf
Kutta	1-1	5-1	5-1
Present Arms	0-1	7-1	8-1
Clifton Fox	12-1	8-1	11-1
Zaraska	12-1	12-1	10-1
Arabian Story	16-1	14-1	14-1
Dato Star	12-1	11-1	12-1
Dreams End	10-1	11-1	14-1
Flamands	16-1	14-1	14-1
Snow Princess	12-1	14-1	12-1
Sugar Mill	16-1	14-1	14-1
Wild Risa	14-1	14-1	16-1
Better Offer	20-1	16-1	20-1

Although the flat turf season stumbles to an

inauspicious end at Folkestone on Monday, Doncaster provides the final race of any substance with the Tote Credit November Handicap on Saturday.

Kutta excelled himself when runner-up to Salmon Ladder in the group three St Simon Stakes at Newbury last month and is sure to give a good account. However, it is 66 higher than the current beaten price and is clearly due to meet with Ballie's entry in a handicap at the same track and offers little value at 6-1.

Present Arms has won his last three races, but this represents a much stiffer task and he may be best on firm ground, while Clifton Fox, the Cambridgeshire winner, is not certain to appreciate this step up in trip.

Lord Huntingdon saddled Snow Princess to win this year and the figure stands four entries to date. However, his chance may lie with Arabian Story. This lightly-iced three-year-old has gone from strength to strength since winning a minor event at Windsor in July and underlined his prospects when second to Willie Conquest at Newmarket last time. However, he is unproven on soft ground and is not worth risking at this stage.

With plenty of rain forecast, conditions should be perfect for Dato Star. He was unlucky in his last start when beaten 10 lengths in a mile and a half at Newbury, but is clearly a fast ground animal and enjoys a 2½ pull in the weights with Snow Princess. He travelled well until lack of a recent run took his toll on his reappearance at Nottingham 12 days ago, and should be spot on now. At 14-1 with Hills, Dato Star can win on his way to a successful hurdling campaign.

2.35	SCAMORE HANICAP (3-Y-O: 23,665; 1m 3f) (10 runners)
301	101000 TRACEABILITY 12 (D.F.G.S) (b) Long & Stevens 9-3
302	3205 FOREST ROBIN 12 (D.F.G.S) (b) Long & Stevens 9-3
303	42223 STYLIC 12 (D.F.G.S) (b) Long & Stevens 9-3
304	32052 ENRICHED 12 (D.F.G.S) (b) Long & Stevens 9-3
305	32051 BLURRED 11 (G) (Trotting Club and Partners) Miss M. 9-4
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RUGBY LEAGUE

Betts's Warrior spirit points way for Britain

Christopher Irvine suggests how to close the class divide apparent against New Zealand

IT IS no coincidence that throughout a 3-0 series defeat by New Zealand, Denis Betts was consistently Great Britain's most effective performer. The key is the company he keeps. Playing for Auckland Warriors in the Australasian competition has improved every feature of his game. Until all Britain's players can have regular contact with the higher standards in the southern hemisphere, it is impossible to see how the gap can be narrowed.

For a young, raw, but willing Britain side, the past month has been a steep and often painful learning curve. No previous touring team has left New Zealand without a win of any description. From a series whitewash by Britain in 1993, New Zealand took the lesson on board and the result is the best Kiwi side for years.

The proposed world club series next year is not only an exciting concept, it can provide a solution to Britain's problem. For all the potential short-term embarrassment that matches against their

Australasian Super League counterparts could mean for the European clubs, the advantages of learning from the best are manifest.

New Zealand's rise is mainly down to Auckland Warriors and their two seasons in the Australasian premiership. Talented individuals have rarely been in short supply. Now they have a unifying focus. Stephen Kearney, Gere Ngamou and Sean Hoppe, all suffered on the 1993 tour, are a different proposition now. The series has produced outstanding performers in Stacy Jones at scrum half, Syd Eru, the hooker, and John Timu and Ruben Wiki, centres of distinction.

With the world club series scheduled before Australia tour England next October, Britain must make rapid progress to avoid a similar humiliation. Betts and Andrew Farrell, as captain, implemented

VICTORIA MATHERS

proved their stock, and Stuart Spruce, Terry O'Connor and Paul Broadbent came to the fore, but after a comparatively untroubled ride in Papua New Guinea and Fiji, an inexperienced side wilted under the far more extreme pressures in New Zealand.

Without Gary Connolly, Jason Robinson, Paul Newlove and Shaun Edwards in the backs, the depth of talent in Britain was exposed as shallow in comparison to New Zealand, who also had their share of absences. There is no doubt the star potential in the pack with Adrian Morley, Paul Sculthorpe and Keiron Cunningham half back is where there is a lack of talent coming through.

Doubts persist about the enigmatic Iestyn Harris at stand-off half. At centre or full back, he looks far more dangerous than when shackled by a strict game-plan at No 6. It was not bravery or commitment but sheer class that Britain lacked. Unlucky as they were in the first international, there was no doubt by the third defeat, and the biggest margin of victory by a New Zealand side, as to who were the better team.

Phil Larder's position as Britain coach was not made easy, particularly as some players were completing a 15-month season. Betts showed by his hunger what a rest from the debilitating modern-day game can do.

The party was due to arrive back in Manchester yesterday to the news that many will be appearing in specially-arranged derby matches at Christmas. For all concerned, it would be better if those games were snowed off.

TOUR RESULTS: 28 Papua New Guinea President's XI won 28-26; 29 Samoa President's XI lost 28-20; 30 Fiji President's XI, won 42-18; 31 Fiji (Nadi) won 72-4; 32 Lions Red Cup XII, lost 22-18; 33 Lions Red Cup XII, lost 22-18; 34 Lions Red Cup XII, lost 30-22; 35 New Zealand (Auckland), lost 17-12; 36 New Zealand (Auckland), lost 40-28; 37 New Zealand (Palmerston North), lost 19-17; 38 New Zealand (Dunedin), lost 32-12.



Betts has been playing club rugby in New Zealand

BOWLS

Scots fall prey to home run

FROM DAVID RYHS JONES
IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG, whose bowling population is barely 1,000, is nevertheless brave enough to challenge the world's best bowlers each year, with the expressed intention of exposing home-grown players to competition at the highest level.

The field for the Manulife Regent International Pairs Classic, which got under way here yesterday, contains three world champions and many more who were good enough to compete in the world championships in Adelaide in March.

The first-round success of a select Hong Kong pair against the holders of the title will undoubtedly do wonders for local morale. Willie Lai and Anthony Carstairs did not merely beat Kenny Logan and Alex Marshall, of Scotland, they overwhelmed them, and the 26-17 final score did the winners scant justice.

The Scots, to their credit, bounced back in the floodlit evening session to defeat another local pair, Roger Tse and Tony Yiu, of the Victoria Club, 33-17.

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, from England, won both their matches against local opposition and Jeremy Henry and Noel Graham, of Ireland, also managed two wins.

CRICKET

Hollioake absorbs lesson

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ADAM HOLLIOAKE, captain of the England A team in Australia, believes the players can draw valuable lessons from the side's nine-wicket defeat by a New South Wales XI in the opening match in which Stuart MacGill and Dave Freedman shared 10 England wickets.

"To come up against two wrist spinners in the first game, particularly one of the quality of MacGill, was very difficult, considering there are not many bowlers of this type in England," Hollioake said, as the side prepared for two matches against South Australia, the Sheffield Shield champions — a one-day game tomorrow and a four-day match over the weekend.

"I am glad we met wrist spin so early in the tour. Now the boys are aware of what they are up against in Australia."

The touring side seemed certain winners when the Chairman's XI stumped to 95 for six against Ian Bishop, but Brendon Julian, with 96 from 52 balls, and Tom Moody, with 66 from 74 balls, took a heavy toll of the slow bowlers.

SQUASH

Jackman continues to progress

CASSANDRA JACKMAN'S punishing pursuit of Michelle Martin, the former world champion, continued in the United States on Sunday when she defeated the Australian for the third time in 15 days, winning the Philadelphia Open final 9-4, 10-8, 4-9, 9-4 (Colin McQuillan writes).

With Martin already displaced after nearly four years as world No 1, by her compatriot, Sarah Fitzgerald, the new world champion, Jackman's victories in the

world year championship final, the semi-finals of the Carol Weyman and the Philadelphia Open must take her close to pushing Martin into third place on the next ranking list.

Jackman, 23, from Norfolk, said: "I am benefiting so much from changing my movement patterns and some of my racket work in recent months. It is building my confidence every time I play."

England's success continued in the men's event in

England's top-ranked man, Del Harris, of Essex, was less successful over the weekend, however, in his pursuit of Jansher Khan, the world champion from Pakistan. In the final of the Heliopolis Open in Cairo, late on Sunday night, Jansher defeated Harris, the world No 6, 15-10, 15-11, 15-13.

Philadelphia, with Jason Nicol, of Nottingham, beating Stephan Castellan, of Belgium, 15-9, 15-8, 15-8 in the final.

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BASKETBALL

Leopards set for cup classic

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

THE Leopards, who completed the line-up for the quarter-finals of the Classic Cola National Cup with their 112-103 win over Chester Jets late on Sunday, will visit Thames Valley Tigers for a place in the last four on November 16.

The victims of an upset by Crystal Palace at the same stage last season, the Bodewiser League's joint leaders advanced this time after scoring 14 successive points early in the second half at Chester. The Tigers had lost seven of their previous eight games before their one-point success over Derby Storm on Saturday.

The three other quarter-finals will take place on November 15. London Towers, the holders, will hope to repeat their early-season league victory over Manchester Giants at Wembley. Sheffield Sharks, beaten finalists last year and joint league leaders, receive Leicester Riders, one of the surprise teams of the season, and Birmingham Bullets travel to Newcastle Eagles, their visitors in the league next Saturday.

By then, the Eagles will be able to call on the 6ft 3in

American guard, Ralph Blalock, 22, whom they have

signed from Towson State

University in Baltimore.

QUARTER-FINAL DRAW: London

Towers v Leicester Riders,

Newcastle Eagles v Birmingham Bullets (all to be

played on November 15), Thames Valley

Tigers v the Leopards (November 16).

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Setting sights: Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman, of Liverpool, take a rest at Bisham Abbey yesterday as the England squad prepared for the World Cup qualifying tie in Georgia. Repentant Gascoigne, page 52

ACADEMY OF SPORT: JOINT BID ATTRACTS HEAVYWEIGHT BACKING

Heyford hoping to nurture winners

BY DAVID MILLER

THE joint bid by Oxfordshire County Council, Cherwell District Council and the British Olympic Association (BOA) to create and manage the new British Academy of Sport at Heyford, Oxfordshire, revealed yesterday, is comprehensive.

Indeed, it might provide the incentive for Steve Redgrave to remain in Great Britain. The four-times Olympic rowing gold medal-winner is considering a coaching offer from Australia for himself and his wife, who is the doctor to the British rowing team.

He said yesterday that possible involvement with Heyford could tempt him to remain in Britain, which he would prefer. The academy would be built on 145 acres of the former United States Air

Force base, close to the M40, near Bicester. The bid was launched yesterday by Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, who said it met "all the criteria of the National Heritage prospectus".

It would occupy a single, greenfield site, as stipulated by the Government, and it is sports-led, the BOA said.

The Heyford group has

some big commercial players on board: Wimpey, Taylor Woodrow, the Vestey Group, Southern Electric, Mars.

They will raise £75 million to add to the Government's promised £100 million from lottery funds.

The BOA will pay £1 million per annum from its own resources towards the £9 million annual administrative costs, which are expected to be

substantially met by £8 million annual income.

Craig Reddie, the BOA chairman, is optimistic that the Heyford bid offers the right blend between private enterprise, innovation, and established elite sports management.

The Oxfordshire and Cherwell councils have guaranteed permission — a critical factor. Wimpey would build 1,000 homes, including accommodation for 750 athletes, and the project would create 1,500 jobs.

The Heyford group is

happy that the management will be in the hands of sport," Reddie said. "That's a significant difference [from other bids] and that is why we are comfortable with them."

A key factor in the academy

will be the involvement of the three big non-Olympic sports upon which British prestige

resides, along with the Olympic Games, football, cricket and rugby union.

The BOA has had lengthy discussions with all three sports concerning their long-term involvement at Heyford. It is rumoured that the FA is less than happy with its situation at Lilleshall.

Besides those organisations mentioned, Heyford would embrace Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University, the British Wheelchair Sports Foundation and Eton College, which is developing an international two-kilometre rowing course.

Heyford will also be establishing purpose-built technology in the fields of medicine, sports science, research and coaching that will be available to every sport, avoiding repeated and expensive duplication.

SNOOKER

Thailand produce television thriller

FROM PHIL YATES
IN BANGKOK

IN FRONT of a mammoth domestic live television audience, Thailand whitewashed the hapless United Arab Emirates 9-0 to squeeze into the quarter-finals of the World Cup here last night. No other scoreline would have guaranteed qualification for the host country.

When England, the group C winners, could only defeat Pakistan 6-3 earlier in the day — it could have been 5-4 had Mohammed Saleh not missed a straightforward pink when he was on the verge of beating Ronnie O'Sullivan — Thailand's chances of advancement appeared slim.

However, the UAE trio completely froze under pressure. Thailand dominated and, with the exception of a nailbiting eighth frame, in which Tai Pichit potted the blue to edge past Mohammed Sulian al Jaber, they were never seriously challenged.

It was a day of conflicting emotions for Wales, who defeated Malta 5-4 to secure first place in group D before receiving the news that Darren Morgan, the captain, would be flying home to be with his mother, who is seriously ill. He will be replaced by Mark Bennett for the quarter-final against Thailand.

Scotland boasted the best record in the round-robin phase when they displaced Canada at the head of group B with an 8-1 victory over Hong Kong. The favourites dropped only seven of 36 frames in booking a quarter-final against Northern Ireland.

Only a 6-3 defeat, or worse, against New Zealand could have prevented Northern Ireland qualifying, but when Mark Canovan won the opening frame against Joe Swail, they were under pressure.

That intensified when Dene O'Kane led Terry Murphy 55-29 in the second frame with only the last five colours remaining. Murphy, of Londonderry, laid the snooker required and cleared to the black to subdue the New Zealand challenge.

Results, page 48

EQUESTRIANISM

Wembley discards dressage

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

THE Volvo World Cup dressage qualifier is to be dropped from the Horse of the Year Show programme, after only two years, as part of a restructuring of the event.

Wembley Stadium Limited, which leases the show from the British Show Jumping Association (BSJA), decided that the dressage qualifier, the only one in Great Britain, is not popular enough, too costly and takes up too much time in an already crowded programme.

"We were disappointed that the event did not attract more of the top riders," Jerry Heaver, the show manager, said yesterday. "As we are keen to return to only one arena next year, a lot of hard decisions have had to be taken. There are no sacred cows, something had to go — and it turned out to be the dressage."

Ulf Bergqvist, Volvo's director of equestrian sports, expressed regret at the decision. "There were a lot of successful things, especially the new infrastructure, but we need to take the show back to basics — and not be afraid to upset the traditionalists when we make changes," he said.

Changes proposed for next year include running the show from Monday to Saturday — this year it ran from Wednesday to Sunday — and a substantial increase in the prize-money for international showjumping events in order to attract more of the leading riders from overseas.

The time-consuming national showjumping classes, a traditional part of Wembley, will also come under scrutiny.

"We're trying to do a total

restructuring of the sport as a whole," Heaver said. "We need to have more of a say in what goes on, right down to the qualifying events."

ICE H

Oliver Holt finds fear and temptation pervading American football

Pitfalls lurk in land of the Giants



An empty stretcher lay by the door, and in the shadows a young woman rocked her head from side to side, weeping silently. She stayed in the darkness of the tunnel while the New York Giants players thundered past her towards their locker-room, and the Tannoy system blared out *Walking on Sunshine* for the benefit of the fans seeping out of Giants' Stadium into the New Jersey dusk on Sunday.

After 20 minutes, the woman leapt to her feet. Tyrone Wheatley, the Giants' running back, who had been carried unconscious from the field after a jolting collision with a 6ft 3in, 20-stone member of Arizona Cardinals, staggered out of the medical room and was led gently back to his team-mates. The sobbing ceased. Wheatley only had a heavy concussion. Many people, including his partner, had feared worse.

In the locker-room, the Giants were busy celebrating their 16-8 win, their second successive victory. It had lifted them off the bottom of the eastern division of the National Football Conference and taken them to within one victory of Dallas Cowboys, the winners of the Super Bowl last season.

The Giants' victory hardly eclipsed the recent fear of the New York Yankees baseball team. It did not even knock a Knicks' basketball win off the back pages. But it did quieten the unrest of supporters who have experienced two Super Bowl triumphs in the past ten years and who were beginning to wonder if they would ever see players of the calibre of Lawrence Taylor and Phil Simms again.

At first, there was little sympathy for Wheatley amid the boisterous aftermath of the win. As he sat, dazed, by his locker, trying to take the protective tape off his knees, Howard Cross, the Giants' right end, leant over him, "Wheat went night-night," he said, over and over again, laughing and pointing.

On the other side of the room, though, the smile had disappeared from the face of Percy Ellsworth. The threat of injuries and the pressure to recover quickly from them blights the National Football League (NFL), and for the Giants, who can see the bright lights of Manhattan beckoning them from across the



Ellsworth, No 43, knows that one tackle or indiscretion could end his fledgeling career with New York Giants. Photographs: Marc Aspland

Hudson River like siren songs, they are one more pitfall that has to be sidestepped.

Ellsworth, 22, a genial, articulate player from a "real small town" in Southampton County, Virginia, is one of the youngest players on a Giants team that is comfortably the youngest in the NFL. He says he is a "home boy", someone who prefers the company of his family to endless parties.

He wants to finish his accounting degree at the end of the season and has chosen to stay in a hotel until the Giants' attempt to reach the Super Bowl ends, so he can go straight home to Virginia rather than see out the end of a year's lease on an apartment.

He is not tempted by the thought of taking a big, juicy bite out of a forbidden fruit like the Big Apple.

All around him and his young team-mates, there are high-profile examples of how things can go wrong. Michael Irvin, the Dallas wide receiver, suspended for five games for drug abuse, is one. Brett Favre, the Green Bay Packers quarterback, battling to overcome addiction to painkillers, is another. It is what one former player recently called "the dark side of the game".

Ellsworth, who plays at safety — the last line of the

defence — and is being tipped for great things, has avoided problems so far. Even when things were going badly at the start of this season, his first in the NFL, when the back page of the *New York Post* screamed that the Giants were "Halfway to Nowhere" after a miserable first eight games, he kept things in perspective, kept himself to himself, kept out of trouble.

Perhaps it is because he

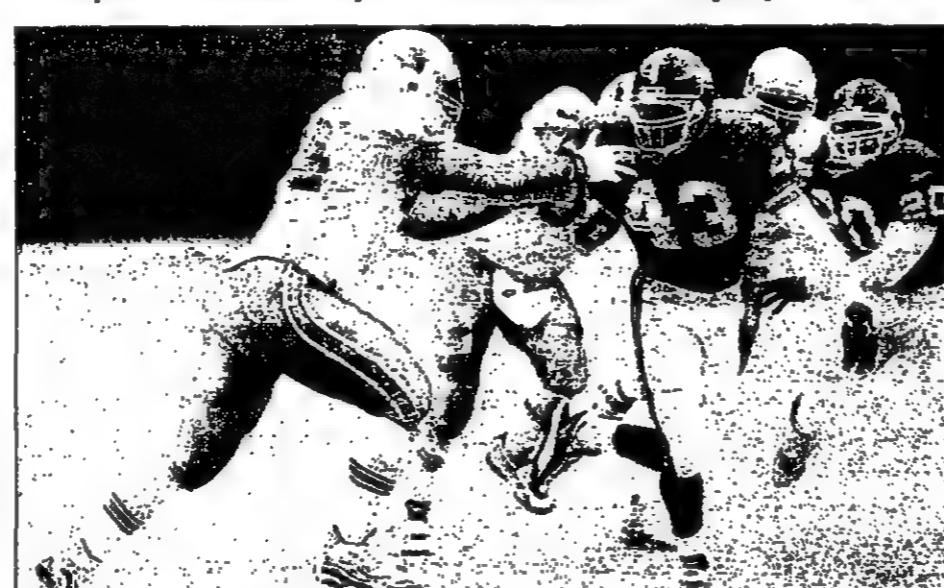
nearly did not make it to the NFL that he is so determined to make the most of it. In the annual pre-season college draft, he was ignored by every team and condemned to an anxious future as a free agent, a player searching for a club.

The Giants gave him a chance and he has grasped it, but he knows he has committed himself to an uncertain future.

"You try not to think about injuries," he said, "because if

you do, you can't play your game. But you can't help thinking about it. It would only take one play; you could put your knee out. You could be paralysed."

"It is high impact. You're crashing into each other at full speed. You hope that God will bless you and you will not be injured. You try to put yourself in the best physical condition so that, if you do get hurt, you heal quickly."



Ellsworth helps his team to victory over Arizona Cardinals in New York on Sunday

Vincent reins back errant Cowboys

THE momentum the Dallas Cowboys gained last week from their crushing victory over the Miami Dolphins and their former coach, Jimmy Johnson, was brought to a juddering halt in Texas on Sunday (Oliver Holt writes).

Another triumph was snatched away from them by the Philadelphia Eagles in a game that could prove to be

the turning point of the season for both teams.

The Cowboys were on the brink of a fine comeback win over the Eagles, who lead the National Football Conference eastern division, when Troy Aikman, the meteoric quarterback who has been remarkable for so much of the Cowboys' success in the past four years, threw an interception late in the fourth quarter.

This was a 60-minute dog-fight, no compassion," Vincent said. "No one expected us to win. This is a step in the

right direction. It was the biggest game of the season."

After nine games, the Cowboys, winners of the Super Bowl last year, appear to be sliding into mediocrity, weakened by their inability to retain crucial players because of a salary cap imposed by the National Football League (NFL). The Eagles have won seven of their nine games and, after the Washington Redskins suffered a 33-13 hammering by the Buffalo Bills, are suddenly firm favourites to win the division.

Their path to the Super Bowl, though, is likely to be blocked by the Green Bay Packers. Brett Favre, their quarterback, shrugged off the absence of his two favourite receivers to throw four touch-down passes in the 28-18 win over the Detroit Lions, leaving them with the best record in the NFL.

Johnson's problems, meanwhile, continued when the Dolphins were humbled 42-23 by the New England Patriots.

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Contemplation.

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NFL DETAILS

		Central division						Central division							
		W	L	PF	PA			W	L	PF	PA				
New England		6	5	244	185	Denver	7	2	223	134	Green Bay	5	4	348	308
Baltimore		6	3	167	158	Seattle	7	2	205	152	Minneapolis	4	5	146	152
Indians		5	4	159	171	Dallas	5	4	194	148	Chicago	4	5	148	175
NY Jets		1	8	143	233	St Louis	4	4	169	162	Baltimore	1	8	164	181
						Tampa Bay	6	2	197	172	St Louis	1	8	164	181

		Western division						Western division							
		W	L	PF	PA			W	L	PF	PA				
Denver		6	5	244	185	San Francisco	7	2	217	122	San Francisco	5	4	348	308
Kansas City		6	3	167	158	Seattle	7	2	205	152	Seattle	4	5	146	175
St Louis		5	4	159	171	Dallas	5	4	194	148	St Louis	1	8	164	181
Arizona		2	8	156	182	St Louis	4	4	169	162	St Louis	1	8	164	181
San Diego		2	8	156	182	Tampa Bay	6	2	197	172	Tampa Bay	1	8	164	181

(Not including last night's games)

RECORDS: Atlanta 20, Carolina 17, Baltimore 21, Cincinnati 24, Chicago 13, Tampa Bay 10, Dallas 21, Philadelphia 31, Green Bay 26, Detroit 18, Indianapolis 19, San Diego 6, Pittsburgh 20, St Louis 9, New Orleans 28, Washington 13, Minnesota 5, Kansas City 21, New England 42, Miami 22, Seattle 23, Houston 16, New Orleans 17, San Francisco 24

AMERICAN CONFERENCE
EASTERN DIVISION

Pittsburgh 7 2 206 126

Baltimore 5 4 199 176

Chesapeake 3 7 217 258

Washington 3 7 180 205

Jacksonville 3 6 172 181

Central division

Green Bay 5 4 348 308

Minneapolis 4 5 146 152

Chicago 4 5 132 175

Dallas 1 8 164 175

Tampa Bay 1 8 164 175

Western division

San Francisco 7 2 217 122

Seattle 5 4 348 308

St Louis 2 7 142 254

St Louis 1 8 164 244

Not including last night's games

RECORDS: Atlanta 20, Carolina 17, Baltimore 21, Cincinnati 24, Chicago 13, Tampa Bay 10, Dallas 21, Philadelphia 31, Green Bay 26, Detroit 18, Indianapolis 19, San Diego 6, Pittsburgh 20, St Louis 9, New Orleans 28, Washington 13, Minnesota 5, Kansas City 21, New England 42, Miami 22, Seattle 23, Houston 16, New Orleans 17, San Francisco 24

AMERICAN CONFERENCE
WESTERN DIVISION

Pittsburgh 7 2 206 126

Baltimore 5 4 199 176

Chesapeake 3 7 217 258

Washington 3 7 180 205

Jacksonville 3 6 172 181

Central division

Green Bay 5 4 348 308

Minneapolis 4 5 146 152

Chicago 4 5 132 175

Dallas 1 8 164 175

Western division

San Francisco 7 2 217 122

Seattle 5 4 348 308

St Louis 2 7 142 254

St Louis 1 8 164 244

Not including last night's games

RECORDS: Atlanta 20, Carolina 17, Baltimore 21, Cincinnati 24

Comic-book characters without the usual wit

It's hip to be glib in telly detective drama at the moment. Blame Fitz in *Cracker*. In theory, you see, a sardonic sense of irony divides the divide between seriousness and comedy, and thus guarantees all-round entertainment. Unluckily, last night, *Sharmen* (ITV) had taken the glib imperative too thoroughly to heart, and whenever you could visualise the stage directions on the page, they said "glib," "with glibness" or "glibly." So Clive Owen's new south London detective travelled untouched through a preposterous plot of Mafia wars, cardboard subsidiaries and multiple (boring) explosions, and all with a character so shallow that you could see through him to the tubes inside the telly. *Sharmen* was glibness without restraint. And it was terrible.

Guy Jenkin, who wrote this first episode, is better known as a comedy writer (*Drop the Dead Donkey*, *Crossing the Floor*) and this

probably explains a lot. Exposing shallowness is a useful thing in a political satire; jokes and farcical coincidence reside happily there as well. But *Sharmen*'s plot entailed serious events such as shootings, deaths and regular balls of fire, and its intention was not — or not ostensibly — comic send-up. So it slid between stools and disappeared from view. Prohibiting the viewer's emotional involvement makes sense in a satire, but when the hero's bystander girlfriend dies in his arms and *it's all his fault* a bit of emotional involvement is surely a sine qua non.

So it's fair to say I didn't like it. At 90 minutes it was interminable, yet curiously railroaded. *Sharmen* fell in love with Jane (Samantha Janus) in less than a minute — she reciprocated, and was wasted, and that was that. All we knew about her was her job (Page Three girl, which perhaps accounted for her paper-thinness). She had a Dock-

lands flat with river views (unlike-ly), talked sexy and maternal like Sharon in *EastEnders*, and had slept with only two or three men. In short, she was a fantasy woman. "Is your life always like this?" she asked *Sharmen*, breathlessly, after his car was blown up for the umpteenth time. "Yeah," he admitted. A classic comic-book exchange between rugged hero and huge-eyed dolly girl which, transposed to the screen without it, was just an insult.

Happily, Monday nights are saved from misery by *The Crow Road* (BBC2), a quite breathtakingly subtle and engrossing adaptation of Iain Banks's novel. Directed by Gavin Millar and adapted by Bryan Elsley, this is such high-class, delicately witty stuff that watching it nearly burst into tears of gratitude. (It had just watched *Sharmen*.)

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

So the story concerns young Prentice McFadden (Joseph McFadden) and the mystery of his long-lost Uncle Roy (Peter Capaldi with curly long hair, like Jesus). Family is important to Prentice: memory and landscape are important too. The intense cleverness of last night's episode was that while the story hardly progressed forward, the narrative filled out and breathed like a novel with remem-

bered scenes effortlessly laced together with humour. This family clearly needs to be known thoroughly, and the viewer's curiosity engaged. Well, mission accomplished on both counts there. What happened to Aunt Fiona (Stella Gonet)? What does Kenneth (Bill Paterson) mean when he says darkly that Roy "keeps in touch"? Why does Uncle Hamish pray for God's retribution on the "cheeky wee devils of the Khmer Rouge"?

Meanwhile, Prentice himself is a sweet character, funny and romantic ("I love you, Verity Walker"). But McFadden's thick, George-Robey eyebrows somehow remind you that his quest is serious, and that he's a bit of a Hamlet too: the crow road is a metaphor for death, and he seeks meaning despite warnings from his pragmatic father (Paterson, brilliant as ever) that no meaning exists. All the best drama recently seems to come from Scotland: *A Mug's Game*,

Takin' Over the Asylum and the one-off play *Ruffian Hears* were all superb. You could watch *The Crow Road* just for the landscape and not be disappointed.

Over on Channel 4, struggling as usual against big-buck drama, plucky *Cutting Edge* gave us a light-hearted film about women who have married into great houses. *Great House Wives* it was called, and the many ambiguities of the title were all intentional. These women were great, they were housewives, they were wives to stone and slate, and so on. Each had chosen a different approach to the job: one had opted for bustling businesswoman; one for curtain-making drudge; one for phantom of the corridors. "You want to invest in a very energetic wife," advised David (Lord Cobbold) — and if you've ever heard Brian Aldrige in *The Archers* talk about

his combine harvester, you will know the tone.

Feminism happened somewhere else, clearly. Pamela (Countess of Mansfield) ran the house and shop at Scorn Palace, but made time to place tea (in a mug printed "The Boss") in easy reach of her lord. Chrissie (Lady Cobbold) drove to London every weekday to make dinner for her banker husband, because he refused to commute. Fiona (Lady Montagu of Beauclerc) sat in a kitchen eating scrambled egg while her husband talked about spark-plugs at a veteran car dinner under a marquee.

It was a clever film, and left room for your own observation. "We women in stately homes are merely passing through," complained Lady Montagu, referring to the system of primogeniture. But in her own curious case, she seemed to be passing through Beauclerc without even touching the sides.

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (87968)
7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (Ceefax) (97540) 8.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (Ceefax) (653421)

9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (s) (714018) 9.45 KILROY (s) (823222) 10.30 CANT COOK, WON'T COOK (s) (87785)

11.00 NEWS (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2086105)

11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (s) (4604124) 11.45 SMILLIES PEOPLE (s) (642746)

12.00 NEWS (Ceefax), regional news and weather (4347105) 12.05pm FLYING DOCTORS (2007685) 12.50 A DIFFERENT COUNTRY PRACTICE (r) (1794766)

1.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (11327)

1.30 REGIONAL NEWS and weather (14606834)

1.40 NEIGHBOURS (Ceefax) (s) (24517834)

2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (s) (2230) 2.30 THE TERRACE (s) (834) 3.00 INCOGNITO (s) (8037)

3.30 BRUM (r) (s) (361018) 3.40 ROMUALD, THE REINDEER (s) (7614308) 3.50 THE ALL NEW POPEYE SHOW (r) (Ceefax) (8604143) 4.10 OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA (Ceefax) (s) (5004582) 4.30 THE QUEEN'S NOSE (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1252679) 5.00 NEWSROUND (Ceefax) (6707885) 6.10 BYGTER GROVE (Ceefax) (s) (2232369)

6.30s NEIGHBOURS (r) (Ceefax) (s) (884105)

6.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (883)

6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (143)

7.00 HOLIDAY Reports from Marbella, a Colorado dude ranch, Florida and the Isle of Wight. (Ceefax) (s) (5178)

7.30 EASTENDERS As residents gather for a Bonfire Party, Lorraine worries about the effects the fireworks are having on Joe. (Ceefax) (s) (227)

8.00 999 LIFESAVERS A series reconstructing extraordinary acts of heroism and bravery. With Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris. (Ceefax) (s) (6785)

8.30 A QUESTION OF SPORT David Coleman, Aly McCoist and John Parrott are joined by Jonathan Edwards, Jeremy Guscott, Nasser Hussain and Sarah Hardcastle. (Ceefax) (s) (1501)

9.00 NEWS (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2211)

9.30 AFTER THE BREAK Funny television commercials from around the world. (Ceefax) (s) (16872) WALES: WEEK IN WEEK OUT

10.00 CRIMEWATCH UK presented by Nick Ross and Jill Dando. The cases include that of the missing student Melanie Hall, who has not been seen since visiting a Bath nightclub in June. (Ceefax) (s) (382056)

10.45 OMNIBUS: ROYAL COURT DIARIES (Ceefax) (s) (542501)

11.30 CRIMEWATCH UK UPDATE (Ceefax) (s) (333389)

11.45 DECISION '96 Live coverage of the American Presidential Election, presented by David Dimbleby (138853). Ends at 8.00am

VideoPlus+ and (s) Video PlusCodes. The numbers next to each TV programme listing are the VideoPlus+ numbers, which you need to programme your recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme and then press Record. VideoPlus+ and Video Programmes are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY 7.15 BREAKFAST NEWS (2626550)
7.30 ALVIN THE CHIPMUNKS (430327) 7.55 BLUE PETER (s) (Ceefax) (7821921) 8.20 FIREMAN SAM (3923860)

8.35 THE RECORD (5134940)

9.00 DAYTIME ON TWO: STANDARD GRADE ENGLISH (6532053) 9.20 THE GEOGRAPHY PROGRAMME (1722263) 9.45 WATCH (5982875)
10.20 PLAYDAYS (2626553) 10.25 FIREWORK SAFETY (2657765) 10.30 COME OUTSIDE (5145252) 10.45 SPACE ARK (2007698) 11.15 CLEMENTINE (7347474) 11.30 ENGLISH COLLECTION (2018) 12.00 SEE HEARI (76579) 12.30pm WORKING LUNCH (76765) 1.00 TEACHING TODAY (1804476) 1.40 HOTCH POTCH HOUSE (24515475) 2.00 FIREMAN SAM (56740105) 2.10 THE FLIGITTE (5040689)

3.00 NEWS (4453363) 3.05 ROMUALD, THE REINDEER (s) (7614308) 3.50 THE ALL NEW POPEYE SHOW (r) (Ceefax) (8604143) 4.10 OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA (Ceefax) (s) (5004582) 4.30 THE QUEEN'S NOSE (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1252679) 5.00 NEWSROUND (Ceefax) (6707885) 6.10 BYGTER GROVE (Ceefax) (s) (2232369)

6.30 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (11327)

1.30 REGIONAL NEWS and weather (14606834)

1.40 NEIGHBOURS (Ceefax) (s) (24517834)

2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (s) (2230) 2.30 THE TERRACE (s) (834) 3.00 INCOGNITO (s) (8037)

3.30 BRUM (r) (s) (361018) 3.40 ROMUALD, THE REINDEER (s) (7614308) 3.50 THE ALL NEW POPEYE SHOW (r) (Ceefax) (8604143) 4.10 OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA (Ceefax) (s) (5004582) 4.30 THE QUEEN'S NOSE (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1252679) 5.00 NEWSROUND (Ceefax) (6707885) 6.10 BYGTER GROVE (Ceefax) (s) (2232369)

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6.00am FOOD AND DRINK (s) (2626550)
7.15 BREAKFAST NEWS (s) (2626550)

7.30 WHERE ROWER MEET BMW (Ceefax) (s) (401582)

8.00 LUCINDA LAMONT'S ALPHABET OF BRITAIN (r) (Ceefax) (s) (572262)

10.30 NEWSNIGHT (s) from Washington (Ceefax) (129114)

11.15 SOHO STORIES (s) (67327)

12.00 THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (83254)

12.30-1.00pm THE LEARNING ZONE: OUL: GEOLOGY OF THE ALPS (49186) 1.00 VOLCANIC ICELAND (5056) 1.30 MAGNETIC EARTH (20612) 2.00 PSHE: LIFESCHOOL A-Z (56585) 2.30 TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH IT (15877) 3.00 INSIDE EUROPE (71787)

3.30 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (11327)

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6.00am CHOICE 6.30pm FOOD AND DRINK (BBC2, 8.30pm)

RACING 47

Wall triumphs in California with Donna Viola

SPORT

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1996

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 50

Ellsworth seeks safe passage in land of the Giants



Forwards await England captaincy decision



By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

FEW secrets are kept in sport but the name of Will Carling's successor as captain of the England rugby union team is one of them. This season, above all, when the Rugby Football Union and the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs have been like leaky buckets during their long and destructive disputes, the national team management cards have been kept notably close to their chests.

Today at Twickenham, however, the new man will be unveiled and will receive a grilling from the assembled media — all so unlike the start of Carling's record-breaking run in 1988, when he returned a telephone call from Geoff Cooke, then the team manager, and was told that, not only was he still part of the England team against Australia, he was also its captain. Carling was

then 22 and, in his own mind, had yet to cement a place in the side. Cooke, however, had no doubt that he would be at the heart of the England midfield for years to come and the same argument will apply to today's appointment: above all, the captain must be sure of his place and that may well preclude three of the runners in the leadership stakes — Phil de Gauville, Tim Rodber and Ben Clarke.

A harsh judgment would suggest that, of the present training squad, only four are stone-cold certainties to play against Italy on November 23 and, beyond that, against the New Zealand Barbarians, Argentina and into next year's five nations' championship: Jeremy Guscott, Jason Leonard, Martin Johnson and Lawrence Dallaglio.

De Gauville, articulate and intelligent, would be many people's choice, but for the presence in the centre of

Guscott and Carling, still holding his form as well as ever. Moreover, de Gauville has been injured over the past five weeks and has been unable to press home his claims as a player. Rodber has done that in the Northampton back row but has yet to convince the management of his best place in the back-row unit while Clarke, now playing in the second division with Richmond, may find his move from Bath more costly than he thought.

Jack Rowell, the coach, has already ruled out experimentation against Italy. Accepting the original criteria, then, the captain will be one of the three forwards because Guscott's talent in the centre is best left unfettered by additional responsibilities. Johnson's propensity to concede penalties, at international as well as club level, may well count against him.

That leaves the two players, Leon-

ard and Dallaglio, who have been among the favourites since Carling announced his intention to step down after the game against Ireland last March. The more attractive candidate is Dallaglio who, at 24, has shown immense maturity, stepping into the breach at Wasps when the long Newcastle curse removed Dean Ryan, Rob Andrew and Steve Bates. To play so well in his first full international season, in addition to coping with club duties, was a substantial achievement.

His position in the back row also allows him to appreciate the tactical shifts of a game. Against that, he like Johnson, has a tendency to voice — if only through his body language — his views of refereeing decisions with which he disagrees and there have been times when Wasps have suffered from an inability to adapt their free-flowing approach to the pragmatism which international rugby will

inevitably demand. The same may be said of Leonard and Harlequins.

However, of all the candidates for the job, Leonard has the most international experience: 49 caps since his debut against Argentina in 1990 and a tour of New Zealand with the British Isles in 1993.

The English are seldom unhappy to be led by a tight forward, though it is not the easiest position from which to judge the ebb and flow of a game. Whether Leonard is assertive enough remains a moot point and he would need to have confidence in his half backs who, whichever combination is chosen, remain inexperienced in international terms.

A bluff, unassuming demeanour masks a competitive spirit and considerable skill and, at 28, he will certainly endure until the 1999 World Cup, if required. However, Rowell's dice has long been cast: this morning, he can let the world in on his secret.



Dallaglio: maturing

HUGH ROUTH/EDGE

England coach continues crusade

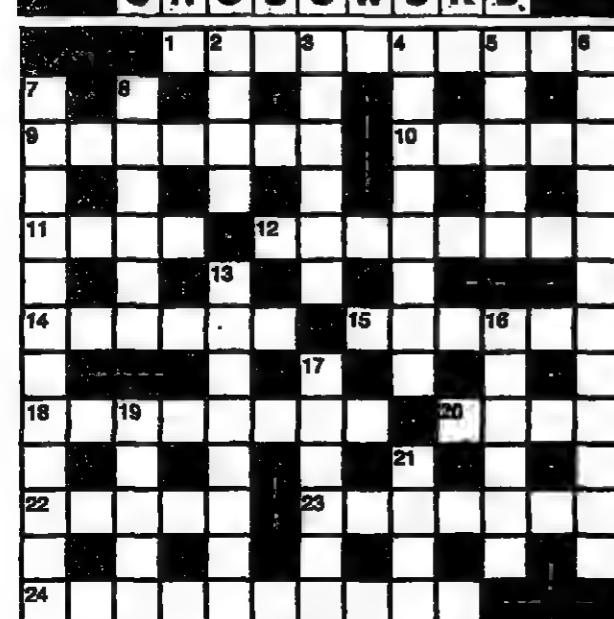
Hoddle offers Gascoigne better future

By ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

BENEATH lowering clouds at Bisham Abbey, Paul Gascoigne returned to the England training told and then confessed his remorse for beating his wife, Sheryl. Beside him, Glenn Hoddle, having already granted Gascoigne a place in the squad, though still not prepared to confirm his place in the team in Georgia on Saturday, asked us to consider the imponderable: could it be that Gascoigne, having admitted his sin and confronted his future, will re-emerge an even better player?

The conundrum is haunting. No one can say that transforming a man's nature, if that were possible, could successfully extract the wildness and leave intact the performer of near genius.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 931

ACROSS

- 1 Lay down as condition (10)
- 2 Silly mistake: a loaf (7)
- 3 Merde! (5)
- 4 Secret language (4)
- 5 Mixed (8)
- 6 The prevailing order (6)
- 7 Advantages; capital (6)
- 8 Element N (8)
- 9 Make contented noise (4)
- 10 From John Bull's Other Is-land (5)
- 11 Living in water (7)
- 12 (Swimmer) stay on the spot (5)
- 13 Lay down as condition (10)
- 14 Silly mistake: a loaf (7)
- 15 Merde! (5)
- 16 Secret language (4)
- 17 Advantages; capital (6)
- 18 Element N (8)
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Costliest but dullest presidential campaign failed to give voters glimpse of a brave new world

Confident Clinton faces prolonged judicial scrutiny

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BILL CLINTON looks set to become the first Democrat in 60 years to win re-election, not because he commands great affection or because voters believe him guiltless, but because the economy is strong and his opponent weak.

However, America would certainly be taking a risk in re-electing him, because Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater special prosecutor, is nearing the end of his investigations into the Clintons' financial dealings in Arkansas, alleged White House obstruction of those investigations and the scandals over the White House Travel Office and missing files. An indictment of Hillary Clinton, or even the President, is not impossible.

The Supreme Court will also decide whether Paula Jones's sexual-harassment case against the President can proceed before Mr Clinton leaves office and Republicans are demanding a special prosecutor to investigate the legality of Asian contributions to the Democrats and whether there were quid pro quo.

During his final rally Bob Dole gave a warning that Mr Clinton would "spend half his time next year with investigations". Trent Lott, the Republican Senate leader, predicted "big troubles ahead for this President". Mr Perot said Mr Clinton's re-election would mean "a second Watergate and a constitutional crisis".

At an estimated \$800 million (£490 million), this has been the costliest presidential election, but it has also been one of the least memorable of modern times. Neither candidate was a fresh face. Neither offered a bold new vision, a "big idea" or real passion. There was no central issue, though plenty, including America's role in the world, were ignored.

Graphs of the year's polls show two basically straight horizontal lines, or three if Mr Perot is included. Not one of the hundreds of polls put Mr Dole ahead. "The truth is, nothing has changed for a long time," Scott Reed, the 75-year-old Republican's campaign manager, concedes in

this week's *New Yorker* magazine. "We were never able to jolt the race. We thought we jolted it when he left the Senate. Then we thought we jolted it with our convention. But we didn't."

The networks returned record low viewing figures for the party conventions and presidential debates. They often relegated the election to second or third item on the news, even in the final days.

Today's turnout is expected to be considerably below the 55 per cent who voted in 1992 and, with a Clinton victory seemingly inevitable, the battle for Congress could well be decided by whether complacent Democrats or dispirited Republicans stay at home in greater numbers.

Campaign row: An Iraqi-American family wanting sanctions against Iraq to be eased gave about \$400,000 at a fundraising event attended by President Clinton. The *Detroit Free Press* reported yesterday, as controversy over foreign political contributions deepened. (Reuter)



President Clinton takes part in one of the last rallies of the campaign, at Springfield, Massachusetts, where he was supporting local candidates

Time for tears on a sentimental journey

FROM BRONWEN MAIDDOX IN MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

AT DAWN today, hours before the polls open, President Clinton will arrive in his home town of Little Rock, Arkansas, after covering the last five states of his campaign in 19 hours.

His adrenalin battling with exhaustion and his voice cracking after six days of round-the-clock rallies, he has said that he is having fun.

"We are trying to squeeze every last ounce of energy out of him," Mike McCurry, the President's spokesman, said late on Sunday. "The paper he gets, the autographs: he signs every thing that is thrown at him. But he had time to catch the high-scoring football game the other night, between the Air Force and Colorado. He

enjoyed that." In the early hours of Monday morning, he kept crowds waiting in Maine while he finished a card game aboard Air Force One.

Mr Clinton personally drafted the grueling timetable for the last hours of the campaign from his cabin on Air Force One, he told the 200 staff, Secret Service officers and journalists who travel with him. Eyes welling with tears, he also said that he had decided to refer to Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Israeli leader, in every speech because he had remembered that November 4 was the anniversary of his death.

In the past few days, the Democratic campaign has sent out 15 million pieces of

mail and made more than 11 million telephone calls in support of the President and other candidates. With opinion polls indicating that Mr Clinton's lead is narrowing in crucial states, he is battling on his own behalf as well as that of congressional candidates.

Mr Clinton's last sweep across the length and breadth of America began early on Sunday in West Palm Beach, Florida, in balmy heat, to a mellow backdrop of 1960s music and a stage decorated with pink plastic flamingos, the President worked a sunburned crowd in bikini tops and shorts.

By 10pm on Sunday, when the aircraft landed in the freezing fog of Springfield, western Massachusetts, in the state's dilapidated factory belt,

the tight timetable was breaking down. The press plane, carrying 120 reporters and technicians, was stranded while an over-watchful Secret Service prevented it from being refueled. Police, frisking the television crews, insisted on testing all electronics; a hundred yards of Tarmac became a tangled heap of cameras and laptop computers, screens glowing in the dark as the officers tried to find the "off" buttons.

For "sentimental" reasons, the President wanted to start the last day of the last campaign "I will ever run" in New Hampshire, where the first Democratic primary election to choose the presidential candidate is held.

A LATE NIGHT VIEWER'S GUIDE TO THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS*			
INTERESTED	SERIOUSLY INTERESTED	INSOMNIAC	SAD POLITICAL JUNKIE
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY
11pm-midnight PRESIDENT	Midnight-2am PRESIDENT	2am-4am PRESIDENT	4am-6am PRESIDENT
Earliest exit polls from Indiana and Kentucky will indicate overall directions of race. Bob Dole must win Indiana by at least 12 points to have a reasonable chance nationwide. If he loses here, Clinton is heading for a narrow victory. Similarly, Kentucky is a must-win state for the Republican challenger. Any sort of Clinton victory here means he will return to the White House. A large win suggests a landslide.	Results from the East Coast states will be heavily pro-Clinton, much more so than the rest of the country. Only Dole's most solid states like New Jersey is an upset likely.	Results from the Midwest, the prairie/mountain west, and the South will confirm the overall result. Dole's most solid states like South and West while outcome in Midwest will decide the election.	Barring complete upset race will be decided. Victory/defeat speeches will be given and Dole once last poll have closed in California.
SENATE	SENATE	SENATE	SENATE
Democrats must hold their seats in the Northeast and New Jersey. Similarly, Kentucky is a must-win state for the Republican challenger. Any sort of Clinton victory here means he will return to the White House. A large win suggests a landslide.	Democrats must hold their seats in the Northeast and New Jersey. Similarly, Kentucky is a must-win state for the Republican challenger. Any sort of Clinton victory here means he will return to the White House. A large win suggests a landslide.	Democrats defend a set of valuable seats in the South, while Republicans defend their seats in the West. Unless very close, the outcome on the Senate should be clear by 4am.	If the race for control is very tight it will be decided in Oregon, where Republicans defend their seats in a generally liberal state.
HOUSE	HOUSE	HOUSE	HOUSE
Too early for key results.	Too early to judge.	Republican prospects are similar in the northeast and New Jersey. In the US, expect Republican losses early on. More than ten seats gained by the Democrats here would imply their capture of the House.	Republicans should win easily in the South while holding steady in the Midwest. If they are not gaining here, their majority is in danger.

* BBC 1, Tuesday 11.45pm-Wednesday 5.30am. Radio 5 Live, Midnight-6.45am. Sky News, Midnight-6am

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Test for Chirac as ailing Mobutu swaps luxury Swiss hotel for Riviera villa

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

PRESIDENT MOBUTU of Zaire yesterday left the plush Swiss hotel where he has lived since August and flew by private plane to his luxury villa in the south of France as eastern Zaire plunged deeper into crisis.

The Zairean leader, who has been undergoing prostate cancer treatment at Lausanne's University Hospital, was believed to be

heading for his sumptuous Villa Delmare at Roquebrune-Cap-Martin near Monaco.

President Mobutu, 66, left Geneva airport for the short flight to Nice aboard his private DC8, designed to accommodate his full entourage — including ten bodyguards, two doctors, two drivers, four other servants and a number of family members.

The Swiss authorities have come under domestic political pressure to engineer the removal of Presi-

dent Mobutu, and his monthly visa was unlikely to be renewed this month.

President Chirac, who is attending a Franco-Spanish summit in Marseilles, faced criticism over President Mobutu's visit to France last April and the arrival of the Zairean leader has presented Paris with a fresh headache at a time when France is seeking to shed its reputation as a haven for exiled dictators.

Foreign Ministry officials said

they did not know President Mobutu had arrived in France and added that it was "highly unlikely" President Chirac would meet his Zairean counterpart, whose human rights record has come under attack in France.

At the weekend France urged "emergency humanitarian action" in Zaire, and called on Europe to prepare for intervention to save more than a million refugees.

President Mobutu was banned

from visiting his property on the

Côte d'Azur until 1994, when the ban was lifted after Zaire co-operated with the French military Operation Turquoise to stop the Rwandan massacres.

In another mark of his apparent return to favour in France, President Mobutu was permitted to address the International Diplomatic Academy in Paris in April.

The Swiss authorities have made it clear that they will not permit regular visits by President Mobutu to another of his large

properties at Savigny, near Lausanne.

President Mobutu's bill at the lakeside Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne, believed to have exceeded £750,000, was paid before his departure, according to a hotel spokesman — loose change for a man reported to be worth several billion pounds, much of which has been gained from Zaire's diamond and copper mines.

The precise state of President Mobutu's health is unknown. Al-

though aides initially said he was recovering well after a prostate operation on August 22, others have speculated that he may be gravely ill. *Le Monde* reported last week that the Zairean leader's cancer had spread and his aides advocated "complete rest".

A spokesman for the Princess Grace of Monaco Hospital, one of the nearest to President Mobutu's Villa Delmare, said last night that his name had not been registered there.

Zaire rebels call ceasefire to let aid reach Hutus

EASTERN Zaire's rebels yesterday called a unilateral ceasefire to allow emergency relief to be delivered to 1.1 million Hutu refugees and countless Zaireans displaced by uprisings in North and South Kivu.

Laurent Kabila, leader of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for Liberation (Congo-Zaire), said by telephone from his new base in the recently captured city of Bukavu that his forces would cease fire for three weeks to allow the deliveries to the refugees.

"They will be regrouped so that their suffering can be helped by the international community," he said.

In Gisenyi, on Rwanda's border with Zaire, aid agencies awaited permission to cross into Goma, North Kivu's capital, where half a million Hutu refugees are marching into a future certain only of widespread death from hunger and disease.

Meanwhile, the clamour for military intervention to save the refugees grew, with United Nations officials suggesting that Rwanda's Tutsi-led Army might be the best placed to restore order to Zaire. Sadako Ogata, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said the Rwandan Patriotic Army, which has close relations with east Zaire's rebel groups, could seek a UN mandate to set up humanitarian corridors for the delivery of relief and repatriation of the Hutu refugees. She said she foresaw the establishment of a corridor from Goma into Rwanda. "I'd like to have heavy international presence

Calls for military help to save refugees in Zaire are growing. Sam Kiley reports from the Rwanda border town of Gisenyi

in order to give a sense of confidence to the refugees, who are very frightened." Asked if the UNHCR was discussing Western military protection for refugee corridors with Belgium, France and other European Union states, she said: "We are informally contacting various governments."

The French agency Médecins Sans Frontières called for a multinational force to be sent to Zaire to establish safe areas for refugees and arrest thousands of Hutus implicated in the 1994 genocide of Tutsis and Hutu moderates in Rwanda.

The two plans struck many observers as bordering on the bizarre. The UNHCR's proposal could amount to forcibly repatriating Hutu refugees and an endorsement of Rwanda's support for Zaire's rebel movement. The French agency's less workable, because it would require a force of many thousands of soldiers with orders to pull alleged murderers out of the camps where they live with their families.

Major Emmanuel Ndhiro, Rwanda's spokesman and a senior Ministry of Defence official, did not reject the UNHCR proposal, but insisted that it looked as if the international community was

Letters, page 21



A soldier said to be from Rwanda and to have been captured in eastern Zaire is guarded in the Zairean capital Kinshasa, yesterday

Pressure mounts on Mandela to intervene in crisis

FROM INIGO GILMORE
IN JOHANNESBURG

THE international community is looking to South Africa to take the lead in finding a solution to the turmoil in Zaire. But so far President Mandela has not been keen to step into the crisis brewing in Central Africa.

At home, too, unease is mounting at Pretoria's failure to lead from the front. A leading article in a national newspaper at the weekend called on Mr Mandela "to

provide the moral leadership our continent cries out for".

In recent years, the West has pushed for African solutions to African problems and President Mandela has figured prominently in this calculation. But Mr Mandela, ever mindful of foreign intervention, has indicated he will only respond to such an initiative from the United Nations or the Organisation of African Unity. The country was recently dismissive of an American attempt to get it to take the lead in setting up a regional

crisis reaction force to deal with crises such as that developing in Zaire.

One reason for Pretoria's indecision is because of its embarrassing blunder over human rights abuses in Nigeria. In his first high-profile foreign policy test, Mr Mandela suffered a setback when he expressed moral indignation at the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Nigerian writer and activist, and called for harsh measures against the Nigerian junta, only to back down under pressure from

regional partners and members of his Government.

South Africa has since struggled to establish a foreign policy focus, and Mr Mandela's stance reflects the line adopted by other African nations. It also cannot be a honest broker since it has been supplying weapons to the Rwandan Government.

While Mr Mandela has not ruled out sending a peace-keeping force, trying to separate factions in a complex ethnic war is a grim prospect. Yet his Government is a symbol of hope in a continent of despair and many — in the West and the region — are looking for effective leadership from him.

Greg Mills, director of the Institute of International Affairs here, said: "If South Africa wants to be taken seriously as a world player, it will have to do its bit." He added: "It is in the national interest to do so because of the effect on Africa's image and South Africa will slip if the prestige rankings unless we take a firmer line."

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Sri Lanka leader is cremated

KELANIYA, SRI LANKA: Sri Lanka's first executive President, Junius Jayewardene, was cremated amid tight security at this temple town near the capital, Colombo, after elaborate Buddhist funeral rites. Monks chanted as the coffin containing the body of Jayewardene, 90, who died of cancer on Friday, was draped in a national flag. (AP)

Defences down

MINSK: President Lukashenko of Belarus chose General Aleksandr Chumakov as temporary replacement for the Defence Minister, Lieutenant-General Leonid Matskev, sacked after attending a ceremony too drunk to read a speech, Interfax reported. (AP)

Bokassa the cruel, emperor and killer, dies aged 75

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

THE former self-styled Emperor of the Central African Republic, Jean-Bédel Bokassa, whose 13-year dictatorship was marked by delusions of grandeur, extravagance and cruelty on an epic scale, has died aged 75.

He suffered a fatal heart attack on Sunday night at the main hospital in Bangui, capital of the impoverished nation he ruled until he was ousted in a French-backed coup in 1979. The former leader had been suffering from kidney and cerebral problems and hypertension, and had a brain haemorrhage last year.

Hours after Bokassa's death was confirmed by Jean Charles Bokassa, one of his 54 children, several thousand mourners assembled outside the hospital.

In 1966, six years after the country gained independence from France, Bokassa, a lieutenant-colonel risen from the ranks of the French colonial army, seized power. He established a regime that became more fantastic and capricious with every year as he declared himself progressively. Life President, Father of the Nation and then Emperor Bokassa I of the Central African Empire.

Modeling himself on Napoleon Bonaparte and claiming descent from the pharaohs, Bokassa created a one-man cult of which he was the principal devotee. Bokassa was once one of France's closest African allies but politicians in Paris were noticeably silent yesterday on his death.

His "imperial" coronation in 1977 cost a quarter of the country's annual foreign exchange earnings and his diamond-studded crown and robes, fashioned by 25 Parisian seamstresses, were valued at £4 million.

France's interest in the lucrative uranium trade of its former colony ensured the support of Paris for much of Bokassa's rule. But the links between the nations brought scandal amid allegations that former President Giscard d'Estaing's friend and some



Bokassa in diamond-studded crown stands at his coronation before his two-tonne gilded throne

During the three-month trial prosecutors presented horrific evidence of his atrocities, including gruesome and doubtless exaggerated allegations of cannibalism.

Witnesses said that the body of a murdered schoolteacher was kept on a meat hook in the freezer of Bokassa's imperial palace. His former chef claimed that Bokassa ate cooked human flesh "with relish" and enjoyed watching foreign dignitaries consuming his political opponents in the belief that they were being served roast beef. "I am not a cannibal," he told the court, in floods of tears.

The self-styled "13th Apostle of Christ" was finally acquitted of cannibalism but condemned to death for murder. The sentence was first commuted to hard labour for life, then to 20 years and finally to 10 years in prison. He was freed after only six years in September 1993.

Obituaries, page 23



American killed by Moscow gangsters

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

THE gangland murder of Moscow's most outspoken foreign businessman has sent a chill through the expatriate community, which had been largely spared the bloody consequences of doing business in Russia.

Paul Tatum, one of the first American entrepreneurs to work in the Russian capital, was shot 17 times in the back on Sunday only yards from his office in the Radisson-Slavianskaya Hotel of which he was a founding partner in the early Nineties. The police believe that the attacker, who used a Kalashnikov machine-grenade, was a contract killer. They said he dropped the weapon at the scene and escaped in a white Lada.

Scores of prominent figures have been murdered, including bankers and leading figures in the media, but the killers are rarely caught.

"People are disturbed by this murder," Peter Charow, head of the American Chamber of Commerce in Moscow, said. "We urge the Russian authorities to take swift decisive measures to bring those responsible to justice. Otherwise, it will send a very negative signal to Western investors."

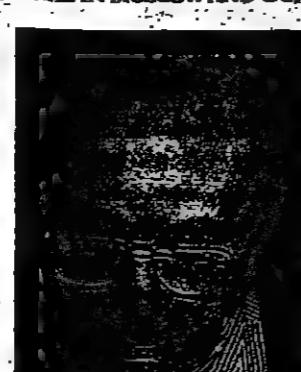
The American Embassy said it would be "inappropriate to speculate on a motive for the murder". However, before his death, Mr Tatum had said that he felt under threat from his estranged partners at the Radisson-Slavianskaya Hotel, where President Clinton and other visiting dignitaries often stay.

Mr Tatum, 41, from Oklahoma, had planned to build a business empire, but he fell out with his Russian partners. Once he was locked out of his offices and had to force his way in with the help of hired bodyguards.

At the time, Mr Tatum appealed to Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, to clean up the city government, which owns a controlling stake in the hotel. "If they do not act immediately, investors and foreign companies will shy away from Russia," he said. "Who would come to a Chicago mob-town of the 1930s to invest their money?"

Decks cleared for midweek bypass surgery on Yeltsin

BY THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF



DeBakey: President's prospects 'excellent'

THE top American heart specialist, Dr Michael DeBakey, met Russian doctors yesterday at the sanatorium outside Moscow where President Yeltsin has been resting for the past few weeks, to decide when the Russian leader should undergo heart surgery.

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the President's spokesman, declined to comment on the possible timing of the surgery, but said Mr Yeltsin would be moved to the Moscow Cardiological Centre at least a day before surgery. His condition was last night described as "completely satisfactory".

The most likely date for Mr Yeltsin's triple or quadruple bypass operation is thought to be tomorrow or Thursday, the anniversary of the October Revolution, which is a public holiday in Russia.

Most journalists and printers will not be working then, and this should make it easier for the Kremlin to put the most favourable possible gloss on the result of the operation.

Renat Alakur, who trained in Texas with Dr DeBakey, will lead the operation, which officials have stressed will be carried out only by Russian doctors. Dr DeBakey, 88, has rejected suggestions that Mr Yeltsin is more ill than is being officially admitted. He told the BBC

that men still live on the same floor of the same house, confirmed yesterday that General Korzhakov had filed the action. The former KGB officer, who was last week stripped of all military duties and the right to wear uniform, is accusing Mr Yeltsin of insulting his "honor and dignity".

He is demanding a public retraction of charges that he disclosed Kremlin secrets and slandered Mr Yeltsin's family.

The two men have been spared the embarrassment of seeing each other recently because of Mr Yeltsin's stay in hospital.

General Korzhakov's accusations have been only one element in a swirling storm of political feuds that has blown up in the President's absence.

Mr Yeltsin has not been seen on television since he cancelled all official meetings last week on doctors' orders, and has been out of the public eye since before the second round of the presidential election on July 3.

The day-to-day running of the country has fallen increasingly into the hands of the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and the Kremlin chief of staff, Anatoli Chubais. For a limited time during and after the operation, Mr Chernomyrdin will become acting President.



A policeman stands guard outside the Cardiology Research Centre yesterday

New Bulgarian leader to speed market reform

BY ROGER BROWN

BULGARIA'S top divorce lawyer, Petar Stoyanov, has beaten his Socialist rival to become the country's new Head of State in a move that is sure to put pressure on the left-wing Government.

The trend against East European post-Communist parties was also confirmed yesterday in Romania, where conservative market reformer led by Professor Emil Constantinescu "emerged" a clear 10 points ahead of President Ion Iliescu's Social Democrats in parliamentary elections. The presidential

vote between Mr Iliescu and Professor Constantinescu, will go into a second round on Sunday in search of a clear majority.

The Bulgarian presidency is less powerful than the Romanian, but Mr Stoyanov, 44, seems set to speed the demise of the post-Communist Government of Zhan Videnov.

The Government is floundering as it prepares for what may well be one of the most miserable winters since the war. Its vulnerability was underlined by the visit to Sofia of a team of economists from the International Monetary Fund, which has been

threatening to delay a \$15 million (£7.1 million) credit because of the Government's tardy privatisation. Without this hard currency, the Prime Minister told the IMF on Sunday, it will be difficult to hold the value of the lev, the national currency, to cover food imports during the winter and to service debts.

Mr Stoyanov's role will be to ensure that the Government accelerates market reforms. Sixty-four loss-making state enterprises are supposed to be liquidated and 50 others privatised.

Leading article, page 21



A jubilant Petar Stoyanov celebrates victory in Sofia

Milosevic sees way to federal job smoothed

BY DESNA TREVISON

FIRST results in the Yugoslav elections signalled a clear victory for Slobodan Milosevic's left-wing coalition last night. The Socialists claimed they would have a majority in parliament, clearing the way for President Milosevic to assume the federal presidency in a year's time when his present term as President of Serbia expires.

According to the first indicators, voter turnout in the Sunday poll was more than 50 per cent. The opposition coalition Zajedno (Together) won about 23 per cent of the vote, less than half the support of Mr Milosevic's Socialists.

The Radical Party, which fell out with Mr Milosevic, said it was pleased with its third-place finish, with about 18 per cent of the vote.

The election results will enable Mr Milosevic to portray himself to the West as a moderate alternative to the Radicals, who reject the American-brokered peace treaty that ended the war in Bosnia.

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Love won't inspire the white cells

While Harold Brodkey was dying from Aids, he kept a journal that became a lyrical and moving testament of love to his wife, Ellen

SPRING 1993
I DON'T want to be defensively middle-class about this, but it was a middle-class decision I made, nothing glorious, to try to go ahead and have Aids, live with it, for a while. I felt the doom was bearable. Also I was not, am not, young. I am not being cut down before I have had a chance to live. Most important, I was not and am not alone. I am embarrassed to be ill and to be ill in this way, but no one yet has shown disgust or revulsion. I expected it.

Barry [Brodkey's doctor], who is very able and very experienced, is surprised that I am not more depressed. He says cheerfully that I am much more upset than I realise. He credits some of the medicines with shielding me, my mood, and warns me that severe unhappiness is coming, but so far it hasn't come. I have resisted it, I suppose. And my wife is with me every moment. I feel cut off from old age, it's true, but that's not like some one young feeling cut off from most of his or her possible life.

I wanted to make a defiant gesture at Aids. The disease and its coercions were contemptible. I figured that later on I would make friends with it while it killed me, but not yet. This performance startled Ellen, who assumed that I would break down.

She left her husband for me. She walked out on everything. No one backed her but her children. That first night in the hospital she tried to make up her mind that it was all worth it, but such matters are hard to resolve when you're alone. She tells me that she felt terrified and lost. She insists that she regrets nothing. She cried when she learnt that she was clear of the virus; she said it depressed her to be so separated from me. And I felt that if I had Aids, she had the right, perhaps the duty, to leave me: my having that disease suspended all contracts and emotions — it was beyond sacrament and marriage. It represented a new state, in which we did not exist. What we were had been dissolved. Perhaps the sacrament remained, but it was between her and her beliefs now: care wasn't in my view, owed to me any more. I wasn't me, for one thing. And she had suffered enough.



"In the hospital, I could not rest without Ellen's protection or eat or drink or go to the john without her help. It is not so different from being in love, this dependence; it is exaggerated, yet not unfamiliar."

It is odd to think of actual fate as being in constant motion inside you. How badly suited I am for having a fate only Ellen knows. How damaged my body is by the virus only will become apparent at my death. The fundamental situation is all clarity and obscurity: a doomed boxing match with a sub-microscopic virus that can have no real sense of the identity of its opponent and yet which, in its micro-ignorance, must win. It eats you alive. There is a tube in your nose, medicines drip and dissolve through the needles in your arms, partly banishing the spectre of death; it peers at you from the dark corners of the room. One is something of a child again, afraid of the dark again.

In the hospital, I couldn't rest without Ellen's protection or eat or drink or go to the john without her help. It's not so different from being in love, this dependence; it is exaggerated, yet not unfamiliar.

LATE WINTER 1994

I remember one night after leaving the hospital last spring, and we were in the living room holding hands and watching television. Ellen asked, for the first time since we learnt I had Aids: "Do you love me?"

'She cried when she learnt she was clear of the virus'

"Will you kiss me?" she said. "Ellen, I'm filthy with Aids. I have viruses crawling in me hideous — hideous wrigglers. I smell to high heaven. I don't want to kiss anyone..."

"I've been bathing you. You don't smell." Then she tried another line of connection between her world and mine:

"Tell me you love me."

"Why? Do you think I'm dying? You think we'd better have a full farewell now?"

"No. Of course not. I just want to know, I want you to tell me."

"Because of the Aids? Because I'm so sick?" (The because being a way of hiding in spite of.)

"I just want to know."

"Of course I love you. So what? Love won't inspire the white cells." She was trying to cure me. "Shh, I know that," she said. I could feel her knowledge in me like a small, clear, delicate motion of the air, a response to the shame and apology in me. She moved closer. "Don't be difficult."

"I feel really shitty, but actually — uh, you under-

tended I was sexy. The hollowness and greyness were embarrassingly clear. I joked about it: "I'm a dead man," I said. I spoke in very slow motion, and with what sympathy I could, leaving without wanting to and for her left "behind": "I love you; I always loved you..."

These stirrings of mischief and of a refusal to be apologetic meant I believed her; that I mattered, that I was not quite dead. The course and conduct of the illness, how I looked — all of it might have driven me mad with nervous fear and self-concern, but I judged my condition by watching her. And by teasing her. We hadn't had time to be this innocent with each other since I began publishing books. We hadn't had a time with so little ugliness in our moments. They occurred throughout the day but came to a climax of sorts each evening as we lay side by side and held hands and watched television, with one of us saying: "This is really OK, right? I'm not imagining it?"

The other would say: "No, you're not imagining it. I feel OK, too."

"I feel really shitty, but actually — uh, you under-

stand — I haven't often been this happy," I said one evening.

"I know. It's so strange," Ellen said. "I'd give it up in a minute for your health." She leaned over and kissed me. "This is really terrible," she said in her omnipotent angel voice.

"This is really terrible," she said in her omnipotent mother voice.

"Tell me that you love me," she said in her lonely, ordinary, wounded, woman's voice.

SUMMER 1994

This morning, on what may be one of my last visits to our country house, when I drove into town to get the paper, I saw a man who was my height and built something like me, but he was about 35, and healthy. For a second it was as if I had been split down the middle by an axe.

Ellen looks well today, even radiant. It is the fresh air and the garden. From my study window, I can see her working: her light vigour and dexterity and strength are reassuring, but also a bit

shocking. How alive she is. Nothing quite moves me like the sight of health and near old age and now death. I do not know at what speed I am moving towards my death. Strange alterations of the self occur: a hope of cure, a half-belief in treatments.

We are, quite

shocked, happy today, ready,

what anything costs Ellen, any more. When I look at her, she marks everything, but sympathy — but waiting. Well, she

shows affection and amusement. I can make her cry by saying: "Don't ask me about the attic fu... do it the way you want it." With the implication, of course, that I won't be here. The book is always closing.

OCTOBER 25, 1995

It is my birthday. For the first time in my adult life, it matters to me that the age I have reached is a specific number. I am 65, but it is not so much that I am 65 as the idea of birth

• Abridged from *This Wild Darkness: The Story of My Death* by Harold Brodkey, published by Fourth Estate on November 11 £19.99

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POETRY AND REMEMBRANCE

Courage needed for a hard and brutal business

THE actual business of fighting has always been hard, brutal and unglamorous, and it provides poets with some of their greatest challenges. Before the invention of gunpowder, fighting men had to be strong and powerful because their personal survival depended upon their prowess with their weapons in hand-to-hand fighting. The one quality which a soldier has to show is courage. He does not have to be particularly clever — in fact a positive disadvantage, as Wilfred Owen pointed out — or imaginative. "Dullness best solves the tease and doubt of shelling." But what a soldier needs above all is steadfastness under fire, especially when his colleagues are falling about him.

The invention of gunpowder transformed warfare. It meant that death could be delivered from a distance.

KENNETH BAKER

The Faber Book of War Poetry is available to readers of The Times at the special reduced price of £11, a saving of £3 off the publisher's price. To order, call The Times Bookshop on 0345 660916

CHRISTOPHER LOGUE

from War Music: An Account of Books 16 to 19 of Homer's Iliad

Fate's sister, Fortune, favours those Who keep their nerve.

Thetor was not like this.

He lost his head, first; then his life.

His chariot bucked too slow over the ruined corpses, And as Patroclus drew abreast of him, The terrified boy let the horses baulk, Leaving the reins to flow beside the car, And covered in its varnished basket, Weeping.

They passed so close that hub skinned hub. Ahad, Patroclus braked a shade, and then, And gracefully as men in oilskins cast Snake insects over trout, he speared the boy.

And with his hip his pivot, prised Thetor up and out As easily as later men detach A sardine from an opened tin.

HOMER

from The Iliad, Book XI

Then to th' extremest heat of fight he did his valour turn, And led a multitude of Greeks, where foot did foot subdue, Horse slaughter'd horse, Need feather'd flight, the bazzard centre flew

In clouds of dust about their ears, rais'd from the horses' hooves.

That bear a thunder out of earth as horrible as Jove's. The king, persuading speedy chace, gave his persuasions way With his own valour, slayning still, as in a stormy day.

In thicker woods a ravenous fire wraps in his fierce repart The shaken trees, and by the roots doth toss them into air; Even so beneath Atrides' sword flew up Troy's flying heels. Their horse drew empty chariots, and sought their thundering wheels.

Quicke fresh directors through the field, where least the pursuit drives.

Thick fell the Trojans, much more sweet to vultures than their wives.

Translated from the Greek by George Chapman

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'Nineties woman looks as if she can deal with anything from modelling to lambing'



Fat has no place in the fantasy world of fashion, where only thin, beautiful models can cast an ethereal spell, says Mary Quant

A terrible rumour hit the fashion field last week — Condé Nast is starting a new fashion magazine, using fat models. This is a bit like hearing that champagne will have no bubbles. Fashion models are not real, just as real people are not models. Fashion may be for everybody, but modelling fashion is not. Fashion begins as a fantasy and dream, which only becomes real by everyday use. So I found it a huge relief to see that *Encore*, the new magazine, is simply a very good advice service and advertisement by Evans, the outsize store for outsize women or for those going through a fat patch.

I personally, like myself thin, I hate it when I get fat. We know a great deal about diet and exercise these days, so why should we be fat? Just leave out the butter and bacon and be as greedy as you like with everything else, like olive oil, parma ham, vegetables, garlic, pasta, rice, fresh mesan and fruit.

French women have always understood how and why to be slim. They even manage to avoid adolescent fat to stay healthy and slender. Mothers pass body awareness on to their daughters. You may see French women enjoying enormous family lunches — but later that day they will have avocado and oranges for supper.

There is no doubt that women are getting bigger, thanks to the Pill, better nutrition and health, exercise, sport and probably sheer confidence. But bigger need not mean fatter. The advice in *Encore* is very good if one is going through a fat patch — waiting until you get thin.

Women have always been good at rearranging their shape to fit the fashion ideal of the moment. As style changes, so we move, talk, and even sit in different ways to emulate it.

In the Fordies fashion was controlled; one only has to think of Celia Johnson's *Brief Encounter* voice — dry, clipped — and hair. Shoes were neat and intellectual, thighs were long and



Stella Tennant epitomises today's beauty



"I personally, like myself thin. So, I found it a huge relief to see that *Encore* magazine is simply a good advice service"

athletes were becoming sexier, and then I realised that our viewpoint had changed. The fashion world's ideal had become sporty, chic and sexy — well-trained, oiled female muscles had become the rage.

As a follow-on, the Eighties model woman had to have big shoulders and a working woman's briefcase. She was a company executive who sat with her legs crossed and went to the gym.

Now we are in the Nineties, we have found a balance at last. Models have sporting, athletic silhouettes and wear delicious feminine fabrics which are long, lean and minimalist. A Nineties woman sits with her legs well apart and leans back.

The Nineties ideal of beauty is epitomised by the model Stella Tennant. She is all class and good bones, and waves at street fashion with a ring in her nose and her navel. Her erogenous zone is a delicious gap of perfection between her waist and hipster pants, and her hair is plastered to the head except for a chunk at the back, which looks as if it has been struck by lightning. She has a wonderfully arrogant look, as if to say she can deal with anything from modelling to lambing.

Every ten years or so, those of us who work in the fashion world go through a phase of rejecting thin models. Why use them, we argue, when all they do is remind everyone else that they are fat? So we photograph clothes flat on the floor, or drape them over tailor's dummies, or dangle them from coat hangers.

But in no time at all we find ourselves wanting thin, beautiful models back, because they cast an ethereal spell on even the simplest clothes. After all, what

models for? They bring romance and magic to simple, elegant clothes and transfer their confidence to us, so we are encouraged just to try the clothes or buy them. If a dress is beautifully cut and made, it will work on almost any body shape, and will make the wearer feel and look terrific. A black polo-neck sweater will be all the better because you saw it photographed on Linda Evangelista.

Models are to the rest of us what racehorses are to the equine world. Their places in the right boxes in a *satin sheath dress*. They achieve the impossible arch of the back and curve of the rump, which makes a tweed suit look ravishing, and the gloss and sheen of their flesh and curve of their nipples make even a cotton T-shirt look like gossamer.

Having worked with so many top photographic models over the years, I know they are just as beautiful with rollers in their hair and no trappings at all. I am permanently grateful to their generosity and wit, as well as their beauty.

Models in fashion magazines teach us how to use fashion for ourselves. When we then buy those same clothes we make them unique, part of ourselves.

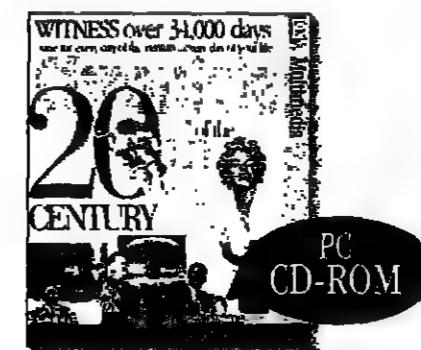
I get enormous fun from fashion magazines. I love spotting the subtle differences in French, British and Japanese *Marie Claires*. But this is different from the terrific pleasure I have as a designer, when I see my own clothes, make-up and swimsuits worn by an individual woman, who wears them in her own way with style and ease, whatever her size.

I do not think the ideal beauty of the future will ever be fat. Instead, I believe that she will have big breasts and become taller than men. She will have a perfect decorative finish, and she will be surreal.

ON THIS DAY 1991



Robert Maxwell found dead 5th November 1991



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Blueprint for a region at peace

Malcolm Rifkind outlines his initiative for the Middle East

I am visiting the Middle East at a time of great tension, but also of opportunity. In my meetings with the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the Palestinian President, Yasser Arafat, I have put forward six points which would help to restore momentum to the peace process.

First we need a deal about Hebron. That is why I visited the city on Sunday: to symbolise British and international support for a final agreement on Israeli redeployment as an essential first step in reviving the peace process. That must lead to fulfilment of the other obligations in the interim agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. We are seeking a commitment from Israel to redeploy troops elsewhere on the West Bank and to reopen the border between Israel and Gaza to facilitate economic activity.

In parallel we need to see the reopening of the "final status" talks. These cannot avoid the hard issues such as Palestinian self-determination and the status of Jerusalem. Nor should either side seek to preempt the negotiations by excluding anything that is crucial to the other side, such as the Palestinian desire for statehood. Peace and security are not alternatives, but two sides of the same coin. Dismantling one, and the whole currency is degraded.

In all this, the Palestinians will need to continue to show moderation, respect for democratic principles and dedication to the path of negotiation. There can be no place for extremists or violence. The aim must be a comprehensive peace, with the Syrian and Lebanese negotiations restored.

I have met the EU's new envoy to the Middle East, and I urge the parties to co-operate with him. The EU wants to complement America's work, not to compete with it. The international community also has a role in promoting stability in the Gulf. That means opposing acts of aggression by Saddam Hussein of Iraq. I recognise that the Iraqi people are suffering as a result of sanctions and I deeply regret this, but relaxing the sanctions without Iraq's full compliance with the relevant UN resolutions would not help. Saddam Hussein would devote his resources not to feeding his people, but to rebuilding his military machine. That is why, last year, we devised Resolution 986, the so-called "oil for food" scheme. Iraq is still obstructing its implementation. I can only look forward to the day when Iraq is no longer ruled by a regime that ignores international obligations and brutalises its people. Such an Iraq would need international support, but the country's isolation could then end.

We must also keep watch on Iran. Although it professes a wish to play a constructive role, its actions tell a different story. Iran's development of weapons of mass destruction, its opposition to Middle East peace, and its support for terrorist groups all make it

We need an overarching structure to encourage co-operation

There would be clear benefits in establishing what might be called an Organisation for Co-operation in the Middle East. This would provide a forum for dialogue and active collaboration, for lowering barriers and improving links. Such an organisation would evolve, rather than spring fully fledged into existence. It could play a role in resolving conflicts and in building confidence, in fighting the causes of terrorism and building the sort of economic and political networks that prevent conflict and reduce the risks of terrorism. I would expect that in due course countries such as Iraq and Iran to find their places in such an organisation, once their behaviour permitted it.

An Organisation for Co-operation in the Middle East would not be a substitute for the essential work of the peace process. There must be no diversion from that. The relationship between Israel and the Palestinians, like those between Israel and Syria and Lebanon, will have to be worked out bilaterally. But one natural function for such an organisation would be to support and build on the peace process.

I have launched the idea of an Organisation for Co-operation in the Middle East, and we are discussing it with our friends in the region and elsewhere. It would help to ensure peace, progress and stability in the Middle East, objectives that are crucial to British interests as well as to those of its inhabitants.

The author is the Foreign Secretary.

Top brass

SHOULD you notice a military snap in the step of Malcolm Rifkind, dapper Foreign Secretary, silk and Territorial Army enthusiast, it may be down to the success of his diplomatic mission to the Middle East. More probably, however, it will be due to an honour conferred rarely on civilians by the military.

Rifkind has been appointed an honorary colonel of an army regiment, an accolade not accorded any Cabinet minister in recent memory. He takes over from Brigadier Brian Charles Ridley as Honorary Colonel 162 Movement Control Regiment, The Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers), based in Grantham.

In an internal memo, the ministry hastens to point out Rifkind's strong involvement in the Territorial Army during his period as Defence Secretary. "He increased their role in operational tasks; he maintained the size of the TA despite pressure to axe it; he produced the White Paper on the TA."

He also has his own uniform, with shiny brass buttons and spit-and-polish boots; and he has never shirked ceremonial dinner duties. But whether the Foreign Secre-

tary has mucked in, rolling around in the mud of Salisbury Plain with management consultants playing bang-bang at the weekends, remains uncertain. My guess is that he would find it all too grubby.

• Slices of smoked salmon lay untouched yesterday morning at the breakfast launch of *Encore*, a magazine in support of the fuller female form. But chocolate éclairs, Danish pastries and butter-laden croissants disappeared before you could say "Double-D cup" as guests, including Vanessa Feltz and TV's fat lady Jennifer Paterson, weighed in lustily.

AS Remembrance Sunday approaches, yachts on the BT Global Challenge boat in Rio de Janeiro, *Pause to Remember* (decorated with poppies and supported by the Royal British Legion), have been doing their best to maintain a profile for the charity.

On arriving in Rio a far from distinguished twelfth, they hit the town and its convivial bars. Emotional from the voyage and tired



Wealthy enough to gamble

Anatole Kaletsky says Major won't have Clinton's luck

The slogan that supposedly explained Bill Clinton's first presidential election victory passed into political mythology as soon as the votes were counted in November 1992: "It's the economy, stupid." Four years ago, Americans were feeling poor, insecure and fed up with their underperforming economy. So they booted out George Bush. Now America is enjoying a dream combination of full employment, low inflation and sound public finance. Against this background, Mr Clinton would be sure of victory even if his opponent were not Bob Dole but Abe Lincoln.

That, at least, is the conventional wisdom. And it offers some comfort to the Tories in Britain. Britain may not be doing quite as well as America, but it is enjoying a healthy combination of rising incomes, low inflation, falling unemployment and decent growth. If a healthy economy guarantees Mr Clinton's victory today, why not John Major next year?

Labour politicians have a pat answer: the premise is false. The British economy is not healthy at all. Voters know that even if incomes are rising, the Tories are giving away the seedcorn of investment on which future prosperity should be built. Without a long disquisition on Britain's economic prospects, let me record my view: Labour's analysis is bunkum; Britain's economy is healthier than it has been for many years (which does not make it immune from sabotage by blunders such as Kenneth Clarke's decision to raise interest rates).

How then do we explain the paradox? Both Bill Clinton and John Major were elected in 1992. Since then Mr Clinton has ridden America's economic revival to victory, but Mr Major has sunk to record depths of unpopularity, even while the economy has palpably improved.

The likely explanations are not encouraging for British Tories. Voters are too sensible to assume that governments are responsible for everything happening in the economy. They judge politicians on the issues and principles that seem to move them — not just on raw economic numbers.

Mr Clinton worked hard from the start of his presidency to be identified with the economic issue that Americans considered most important — jobs. Although he did not directly control the Federal Reserve Board's monetary policy, he appointed articulate pro-growth Keynesian economists to important positions in the Fed, the Treasury and the White House. By doing this he was able to take credit for prosperity and growth.

Mr Major latched onto a very different economic issue, inflation, which now leaves British voters cold. As a result, very few voters connect rising prosperity with the Tories, especially since the turning of the economic tide immediately followed the apparent abandonment of Mr Major's anti-inflationary policies, when Britain left the exchange-rate mechanism.

But why was Mr Major unable to reinvent himself as an advocate of growth and jobs in the four years after White Wednesday? Part of the explanation undoubtedly lies in the dominance of monetarist dogma in Mr Major's thinking. But there may also be a deeper reason. Right-wing politicians are in their natural element during periods of hardship and financial crisis, while left-wing politicians find it easier to operate in prosperous times. When the economy is healthy, people are more inclined to share their prosperity with the less well off and to take some risks by electing flamboyant politicians committed to social change. It is during crises that cautious bean-counters like Mr Major come into their own.

Every Labour government since Ramsay MacDonald's first administration in 1924 has been elected during a period of economic growth and declining unemployment. The same has been broadly true in America, where Democrats have usually been swept into office on a tide of optimism, while Republicans have often benefited from fear and gloom.

We now know that the American economy had already passed its turning point by the time Bill Clinton arrived at the White House in 1993. Indeed, revised economic figures have shown that America's economic performance in the last year of the Bush Administration was not at all bad — growth in the last quarter before the election was revised up from 2.7 to 3.9 per cent — and Republicans have cursed their luck for losing an election they ought to have won on the economics.

But perhaps the opposite was true. Perhaps the American voters sensed the economic improvement and perhaps that was why they decided to risk a change from a dour Republican to a colourful Democrat. In their bones, Americans may already have started to feel more confident, better off and more willing to take political risks. Perhaps the same thing happened in Britain in the period after White Wednesday, when Britain's love affair with Labour began. If so, faster economic growth could actually help Labour more than the Government. Perhaps the Tories should try a new slogan: "It's not the economy, stupid."

Gunpowder and Currie

Fireworks can and do kill, but that is no reason to ban them from our back gardens. On the contrary

man was knocked unconscious by an exploding rocket. There is a particular and unique horror in accidents which result from attempts to have fun (I myself used to have nightmares in the days when my brother regularly parachuted in a gorilla-suit at fairs, waving a banana; if anything had gone wrong, the gorilla-suit would definitely have made it worse). And so much of this particular kind of horror has already marred the nostalgic foolishness of Guy Fawkes week 1996 that Mrs Currie will undoubtedly find supporters.

Indeed, there is a real risk of injury finding so many that one of these years the boxes of fireworks will not appear in the shops at all and we shall be restricted to official displays. Assuming, of course, that there are enough "qualified and licensed" people to run them, all in the same week, all over the country. This may not be as simple a matter as Mrs Currie airily suggests: the trouble with big communal displays in the park is that you have to have big fireworks or nobody can see property, and it is impossible for local individuals — as some in the trade itself, such as Mr Deeker of Pains, have pointed out — to find a training scheme suitable for the needs of a person who sets off five or six big fireworks once a year. Nor can trading standards officers check up properly on whom such "public" fireworks are sold to, because there is no easily produced proof that the buyer knows his fuse from his elbow.

Unless it is so large that the organisers can afford several thousand pounds for professional pyrotechnicians, the communal event — the middle-sized neighbourhood display of the kind that half-baked safety campaigns have tended to approve of — is these days probably far more dangerous than a smaller private one in the back garden.

Poor Mr Hattersley was killed while actually conducting a community, school-based firework display, which is presumably why he was using an appropriately large and powerful firework — so that everyone would have a good view; which is why those enormous and dodgy Chinese imports are on easy general sale.

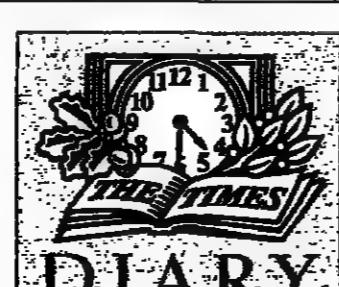
The paradox is that Mrs Currie could have made a better case by saying that apart from a few showpieces in large cities, only garden firework displays should be allowed, since their fun lies in more modest

and less dangerous pyrotechnics of the kind which only hurt you when you fail to follow the simple Firework Code. Then we could sweep the public shelves clear of the big mortars and bombs and have done with it.

There would still be genuinely professional showpieces for those who want to travel to them; otherwise the back gardens would fizz and smoke and pop with cosy domestic fireworks fit for audiences of two dozen at most. But there would be no deceptively "safe" middle way: not the remotest risk of a responsible, careful but untrained pillar of the community ever handling an 8lb explosive in a mortar tube.

S weeping the suspect big-bangers off the shelves is an obvious priority anyway. There has been a major failure of care for public safety in this odd, once-a-year industry. Whether it was predominantly because of EU trade rules, as some claim, or just out of a general gauze sense of deregulation, the changes made in 1993 and 1994 to import licences and rules have led, in the opinion of every despairing expert, to the arrival in Britain of immense numbers of big quasi-professional fireworks from the Far East. Some have instructions only in Chinese: some not only breach British

Libby Purves



from a night's drinking, they then decided to take their boat out again — against the rules of the competition. Within a couple of flaps of the sail, they had inflicted some minor damage to their yacht and returned dejectedly to port. There they met the race director, Chay Blyth, who gave them a lashing worse than any transatlantic squall.

Canned

ONE of Oxford's last all-male institutions has tumbled. The Canning Club, the oldest University essay society, is to admit women. A fogyish conservative body, the Canning has met for 150 years to discuss an essay presented by one of its members fueling up regularly with claret. Former members include Lord Curzon, Lord Hail-

sham of St Marylebone, William Waldegrave and a whole range of embryonic Tory grandees.

"Anybody who was anyone was a member of the Canning or its rival the Chatham in my day," said Hailsham. "I suppose admitting women is a perfectly natural progression."

Unsurprisingly, the moving force behind this revolution is none other than the American graduate student, Clifford Potter. Keen Diary readers will remember that earlier this year, Potter, the heir to a Midwestern dry goods fortune, tried to update Oxford's Bulldog Club, making it more like an American fraternity. The plan collapsed. As one of Potter's contemporaries puts it, "in the wake of Potter lies nothing but shards."

Ample time

HABIT-SWAPPING is the vogue at the moment at Ampleforth Abbey in Yorkshire, where the present Abbot, Patrick Barry, has announced he will be stepping down from his post in March. Now 78, Barry has been at Ampleforth man and boy. Since arriving at the school aged 11, he has only ever left for three years in Oxford.

He is currently halfway through his second term as Abbot, overseeing the monks in the community.



Elmer Gantry

The favourite to succeed him is the present Headmaster of Ampleforth College, Father Dominic Warner.

Who he?

OBSCURE American cultural references have been popping up in the Prime Minister's remarks — most recently his comparison of Tony Blair to the fictional character Elmer Gantry, as reported in *The Times* yesterday. Gantry was an evangelist preacher prone to fiery sermonising, but later ex-



Burt Lancaster

He is the son of Lancaster, one of his screen idols. As an unemployed boy in Brixton, Major would idle away the afternoons in the cinema, repeatedly watching *The Flame and the Arrow*, in which Lancaster played an athletic rebel leader in medieval Italy.

P.H.S



OXFORD'S BUSINESS

The core task is to preserve excellence, not grass.

The dons' parliament, or Congregation, of Oxford University votes today on a proposal to build the headquarters of its Business School on a playing field close to the heart of the university. Although Oxford has the opportunity of housing one of the world's leading business schools in the next century, the development is only possible because of a £20m donation from the Syrian-born businessman Wafic Said. A vocal coalition of dons and students argue that Mr Said's money is contaminated by his involvement in arms deals, that business studies are superficial and unscholarly and that the university will break an undertaking to leave the site free of buildings. None of these arguments survives examination.

Universities should not take money generated by evidently immoral or unethical activities. But no such charge has been levelled, let alone proved, against Mr Said. Oxford should not refuse his donation on the grounds that a minority of its staff and students dislike the arms industry. Mr Said's implacable critics might recall that the university's past benefactors have not always been saints. In his day, the controversial Cardinal Wolsey cannot have seemed the donor made in heaven; yet his college remains one of Oxford's best-endowed. Does anybody now worry how Cecil Rhodes made the £3.3 million which he gave the university in 1903, financing the Rhodes scholarships?

The outbreak of academic snobbery directed at business education is the most foolish and disgraceful aspect of the university's debate. The worst management education may be superficial statements of the blindingly obvious expressed in psychobabble. For the hard-working holder of an under-funded professorship in econometrics, it must indeed be infuriating to see management gurus making huge sums of money writing books with titles such as

Bursting Into Flame: Drive Your Company As If It Were a Huge Dirigible. But if the entry barriers to the profession of management teaching are ridiculously low, the Oxford Business School's job is to raise them by example. The best business school should be a meeting point for economics, law, politics and ethics; Oxford's graduates will disperse to every area of public and private life.

To dismiss management education as "vacational education" is an ahistorical misunderstanding. When William of Wykeham founded New College in the 14th century, he created an institution to teach the key vocational management skill of the day: Latin.

The director-designate of Oxford's 20th-century business school, John Kay, is not a man known for tolerating technical gimmicks from the intellectual fringe.

The university authorities have been struggling to teach management studies since the 1960s; Congregation voted to establish a fully integrated Business School in 1990. The university rightly believes that the Business School can only make its full contribution from the university's heart, and that has meant a hard decision to sacrifice a playing field. No such price is ideal if a better alternative exists: but in this case none does. No categorical promise that the space would remain green field seems to have been made. Oxford's purpose is to teach, not to preserve grass.

Mr Said's gift is an opportunity for Oxford to recover the mistake it made in refusing to house one of Britain's first two business schools in the 1960s. A decision against the Business School would probably mean the collapse of current plans and would drive future donors to other universities, and probably to other countries. The ancient fathers of Oxford would have voted to accept this donation — and so will those who care for the university's future.

THE ORDER OF THE BOOT

Bulgarians and Romanians tire of ex-Communist decay

As they stockpile cabbage heads and firewood against another winter of food shortages, power cuts, shrivelled family budgets and chaotic state finances, most voters in Bulgaria and Romania expect things to get worse before they can conceivably get better. In that depressing sense, the weekend's election results in both countries have changed nothing.

But in another, they are momentous. Unlike their Central European neighbours, Bulgaria and Romania never quite broke with Communism. The Stalinist dictators Todor Zhivkov and Nicolae Ceausescu were overthrown seven lean years ago. But except for a short period in Bulgaria, they have been succeeded by governments that were communist in all but name.

This new-old breed of politicians rebuilt the webs of patronage while playing on the fears of those lower down the ladder — the party hack's fear of retribution, or the worker's that his job will disappear along with the decaying and uneconomic state factories. It has taken until now for people to vote massively for change, deciding that whatever pain and uncertainty life under a genuinely free-market system might entail, nothing could be worse than socialist inefficiency and corruption coupled to half-hearted economic reforms.

In Bulgaria's presidential elections Petar Stoyanov, a straight-talking young lawyer whose head barely showed above the political parapet a year ago, has trounced Ivan Marazov, the scholarly ex-Communist put forward by the governing Socialist Party in a vain effort to convince voters that it was capable of reform. Constitutionally, he has no more powers than had Zhelyu Zhelev, the absolutely democratic outgoing President

who has fought a courageous rearguard action against the totalitarian tendencies of Zhan Videncov's Government. But politically, it is a new game.

Mr Stoyanov cannot compel a general election, and none is due for two years. But as angry is the national mood, and so desperate the state of the economy, that the Government has been forced to admit that it has forfeited its political mandate. To survive this winter without massive unrest, it will have to borrow the President's democratic free-market clothes. When Mr Stoyanov prods the Government, it will have to jump — and even that may not save it for long.

President Ion Iliescu of Romania, Communism's great survivor who confidently expected his writ to run well into the next century, has had an even greater shock. A year ago the Opposition's 15-party Democratic Convention led by Emil Constantinescu looked hopelessly divided. Today, it is celebrating victory in both houses of parliament over the neo-Communists who have governed without a break since 1989. It did so by challenging Mr Iliescu's paternalistic "stability and continuity" platform with the kind of radical free-market "contract with Romania" that few observers thought the country's voters would be bold enough to buy. Mr Constantinescu enters the run-off campaign for the presidency with the wind in his sails and, although Mr Iliescu's chances cannot be written off, his days of uncontested power are over.

Bulgaria and Romania have been stranded in history's chilliest anteroom, that reserved for ex-Soviet satellites whose rulers refuse to learn from the West. Their people have not escaped it yet; but they have kicked open the emergency exit.

VILE BADINAGE

Who would call his opponent Elmer Gantry, even in jest?

Tony Blair's claim upon the mantle of moral superiority clearly irritates John Major like nothing else. During the party conference season it seemed briefly that Mr Blair might have overreached himself at last in millennial rhetoric. But no: since then he has co-opted the tragedy at Dunblane, embraced the manifesto of Frances Lawrence and successfully paraded his personal ethics and Christian beliefs. For a Prime Minister of famous decency and integrity, leading a party that has long liked to defend morality from godless socialists, it must be the ultimate aggravation.

Yet to compare Mr Blair to one of literature's best-known religious comment, as political correspondents reported Mr Major as doing at the weekend, is surely a gibe too far. Maybe the Prime Minister's remark, "While Gantry utterly dominates the book that bears his name, he has a half-rival from the ghastly female evangelist, Sharon Falwell, who is loosely based on the real American preaching phenomenon, Aimee Semple McPherson. Evelyn Waugh chose the same thrice-married Mrs McPherson for the immortal character of Mrs Melrose Ape in *Vile Bodies*. Is Gillian Shephard ready for that role? Would Jack Straw dress in drag?

Somewhat readers may, of course, remember the politician who was sharing the voyage across the ocean with Mrs Ape and her bad-tempered "angels". He was a powerful man "in an uneasy trance", a man of notable diffidence and liability to panic. His name was the Rt Hon Walter Outrage, MP, and he was "last week's Prime Minister".

Elmer Gantry is one of the most monstrous of fictional phonies: even in his youth he could make *Good Morning* seem profound as Kant, welcoming as a brass

hand and uplifting as a cathedral organ". By the end of the book, which helped Lewis to the first Nobel Literature Prize for an American in 1930, the fake preacher is still not unfrocked, is still pleading successfully for support from his congregation and is still eyeing up the ankles of the new girl in the choir. His last words are: "Dear Lord, thy work is but begun! We shall yet make these United States a moral nation!"

Where might Britain's new moral drama lead us next? Who, for instance, will play the role of Rev Chadband, Charles Dickens's precursor to Elmer Gantry, who gave poor Jo so bad a time in *Bleak House*? Chadband is younger and more attractive, but has all the same oleaginous qualities of the preaching politician. Gummie, perhaps?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9RN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Prospect of international military intervention in Zaire

From Mr John Snodgrass

Bursting Into Flame: Drive Your Company As If It Were a Huge Dirigible. But if the entry barriers to the profession of management teaching are ridiculously low, the Oxford Business School's job is to raise them by example. The best business school should be a meeting point for economics, law, politics and ethics; Oxford's graduates will disperse to every area of public and private life.

Those responsible for genocide in Rwanda (leading article, November 2) could have been halted two years ago, at comparatively little cost, by a small, disciplined armed force, as could be the "armies" now fighting in eastern Zaire.

Everyone familiar with the area knows this, and knows that the appalling human tragedies will go on at least until the Hutu terrorist leaders in the camps are brought to heel. For it is they, far more than the Tutsi-led Government in Rwanda, who are preventing the refugees from returning. The unfortunate aid workers can't control these leaders, and, for a variety of reasons, the Zairean Army is not doing so either. An international conference, as proposed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council (letter, October 30), would be able to achieve little of permanent value unless it were prepared to grasp the nettle of military intervention.

Of course, such intervention, even with African participation, would risk being denounced as interference in internal affairs, if not neo-colonialism.

Healey on Brown

From Mr Alan Lee Williams

Sir, Lord Healey weighs in with the gratuitous comment that Mr Gordon Brown lacks governmental experience (report, November 1).

I seem to recall that Denis Healey had no governmental experience when he became, arguably, the best Secretary of State for Defence since the Second World War. His brilliant and unbroken period at the Ministry of Defence lasted some six years, thus giving him the governmental experience he originally lacked. Mr Brown can hope for no less, perhaps.

Also, Mr Healey went straight from Oxford to the Army and then to Transport House as an official of the Labour Party before entering Parliament. This can hardly be regarded as governmental experience; nor was it, indeed, so very different from an entire political generation who subsequently enjoyed the experience of Cabinet Office.

Lord Healey forges the past and has acquired a very selective memory.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN LEE WILLIAMS
(Parliamentary Private Secretary to Denis Healey, 1968-70), Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.

November 1.

From Mr Ernest Wood

Sir, Is the Lord Healey who has recently spoken disparagingly about the lack of ministerial experience of Shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown any relation to Denis Healey, the Labour Chancellor who naively allowed himself in 1976 to be conned by politically motivated Treasury officials into going cap-in-hand to the IMF for a loan, only to discover in the following year, when the 1976 public accounts had been completed, that his journey had been totally unnecessary and that this country hadn't at any time been anywhere near the state of bankruptcy that prompted his humiliating experience?

Yours sincerely,
ERNEST WOOD,
Fourwinds, Meldon,
Okehampton, Devon.
October 31.

Getty complaint

From Mr Claus von Bülow

Sir, Mr Walsh, the Director of the Getty Museum in Malibu, is reported (Arts, October 29) to complain about the British Government's "bent" rules for the export of works of art. He does not mention, but no doubt knows, that the governments of continental Europe, such as the Greeks, the Italians and the French, simply prohibit the export of works of art of the quality of Canova's *Graces* or the Guercino by fiat.

As Mr Walsh's files must show, works of lesser importance can from time to time be exported from continental Europe by an offer to buy and donate another work of art, which is desired by the relevant ministry. This is not illegal or corrupt, but somehow the British Government may not find that kind of bazaar bargaining very dignified.

Mr Walsh should be content to profit, as the law Mr Getty did, from the degree of flexibility in the UK before the European Court imposes a rigid prohibition on the export of all works of art of the quality desired by the Getty to date. Some people find that works of art may be safer in "some country house in Norfolk" (which Mr Walsh uses as an example of the Gobi desert) rather than in a Los Angeles suburb, surrounded by forest fires and located on top of the San Andreas fault.

Yours sincerely,
CLAUS BULOW
(Personal assistant to the late J. Paul Getty, 1959-68), 109 Onslow Square, SW1.

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and no Western country would happily accept the odium of pressing it. Without it, refugees will continue to be hounded; massacres will flare up with sickening frequency; aid workers will keep their wards alive only until the next crisis; and the camps will nurture discontent, at enormous cost, for decades.

As so often in foreign policy, we have a choice of evils. But in this case, there can be little doubt which is the greater. Yours faithfully,
JOHN SNODGRASS
(Ambassador to Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi, 1980-83), The Barn House, North Warnborough, Hampshire. November 2.

From Professor Christopher Clapham

Sir, There is no case for international military intervention in Zaire, least of all by a state as discredited as France has become (report, November 4). Through its propping up of the corrupt Mobutu dictatorship and its close association with the perpetrators of genocide in Rwanda.

Still more basically, however, order can only be restored in the Great Lakes region through the emergence of effective domestic regimes which are capable of governing responsibly.

The lessons of corporal punishment

From Lord Digby

Sir, When describing the effects of democracy in Athens, Plato wrote that with the introduction of Democratic freedom, so this freedom was extended to the home, where the father, not wishing to seem disagreeable, failed to discipline his son. As a result the son asserts his independence by not showing respect for his parents. The teacher in turn fears and punishes his pupils, who consequently despise their teachers.

Why has it taken 2,400 years for this analysis to be proved so strikingly correct? I suggest that it is because our increasingly liberal civilisation has made us realise the futility of capital and corporal punishment, but has not provided any substitute. By being too civilised we are in fact undermining the very roots of our civilisation. Civilised behaviour is not a characteristic with which we are born, but it has to be instilled into us.

In previous ages the maxim of "Spare the rod and spoil the child" was generally accepted, but undoubtedly this discipline was overdone. Now it is up to us to find a civilised alternative. This is fairly easy at an early age, but it gets progressively more difficult.

From birth, discipline can be instilled by feeding at regular hours, and, as William Rees-Mogg quoted John Locke (article, October 29) "little children should not be allowed to get their own way by crying, querulousness, bullying or repeated demands". A loving slap can work with slightly older children, but when they become teenagers it is too late, as any deterrent can become increasingly violent.

The prime responsibility for instilling civilised behaviour undoubtedly lies with parents, but those who care

for his non-attendance and David Maclean, Home Office Minister of State, knew exactly why he was jeered: it was because he attacked the audience from the outset and accused us of failing to support Howard's policies. Mr Maclean was aware of our concerns and our feeling of being snubbed yet again if you orchestrated hostility by an audience you should not be surprised if you are jeered.

Yours sincerely,
MIKE BENNETT, Chairman, Joint Executive Committee, Metropolitan Police Federation, Croydon Police Station, 71 Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey. November 1.

Howard and the police

From the Chairman of the Joint Executive Committee, Metropolitan Police Federation

Sir, The confrontation at our recent annual open meeting ("Police and order record", report, October 31) was occasioned not by the Home Secretary's policies but by the fact that, as the police authority for the Metropolitan Police, he has attended none of our annual open meetings. He has created his own small piece of history by being the only Home Secretary in modern times not to do so.

We have never had any explanation

for his non-attendance and David Maclean, Home Office Minister of State, knew exactly why he was jeered: it was because he attacked the audience from the outset and accused us of failing to support Howard's policies. Mr Maclean was aware of our concerns and our feeling of being snubbed yet again if you orchestrated hostility by an audience you should not be surprised if you are jeered.

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MIKE BENNETT, Chairman, Joint Executive Committee, Metropolitan Police Federation, Croydon Police Station, 71 Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey. November 1.

From Mr Jonathan Bullock

Sir, The bridge over the River Kwai (or Kwee to be precise) may well have become a tourist attraction (report, October 31) but let us not exaggerate this.

I visited the bridge during the summer and found it a focal point to understanding what a previous generation had to endure.

The railway journey over the bridge and through the "Death Valley" was a poignant reminder of the sheer scale of what the Allied prisoners were forced to achieve. Most organised tours also take in the war cemetery and reconstructed PoW huts at Kanchanaburi.

Indeed, those poor locals making a very small amount of money from visitors are themselves the descendants of people who died in their thousands helping construct the railway. They are not intrusive and there is plenty of time and space for quiet prayer, reflection and keeping the memory of our brave soldiers alive.

The plan for a proper memorial at the bridge should be given serious consideration by the Burma Star Association.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN BULLOCK,
57 Westminster Mansions,
Little Smith Street, SW1.
October 30.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN D. CHADWICK,
Les Vauxbiers,
23 Barnfield Avenue,
Wem, Shropshire.
November 1.

Rain, rain... what did they say?

From Mr B. H. Parker

Sir, Mr John Airley (letter, November 2) makes a valid and telling point when he complains of the difficulty of remembering the important elements of a radio weather forecast.

Some three or four years ago I met with the same problem professionally when I was a lecturer in meteorology at the Britannia Royal Naval College. I had to advise officers on the relative merits of different sources of meteorological information and I was concerned that the then newer styles of weather forecasting, so effective on



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 3: The Duke of York today visited Northern Ireland and was welcomed by Mr. Malcolm Moss MP (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Northern Ireland).

His Royal Highness this morning opened the Royal Ulster Constabulary Air Support Unit building at Royal Air Force Aldergrove and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Antrim (the Lord O'Neill).

The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, this afternoon attended the Annual Remembrance Service of The Royal Irish Regiment in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast (Colonel Elliott Wilson). November 4: The Duke of Edinburgh, President, Worldwide Fund for Nature — WWF International, and Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this morning left Royal Air Force Northolt for Toronto, Canada.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Richardson is in attendance.

November 4: The Princes Royal this afternoon opened a new Faculty of Arts building at Basingstoke College of Technology, Woking Road, Basingstoke, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

Her Royal Highness afterwards opened a new Young Men's Christian Association Residential Centre at Basstow Way, Basingstoke.

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Naval Museum, later visited the museum and the *Mary Rose* and, this evening, attended a Reception and Dinner on board *HMS Victory*, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 4: The Prince of Wales this morning departed from Royal Air Force Lyneham to visit the Ukraine and the Republics of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

The following were present and took leave of His Royal Highness: The Minister Counsellor from the Ukraine Embassy (Professor

Mikhail Bilousov), the Charge d'Affaires from the Kazakhstan Embassy (Mr Almaz Khanzaev) and the Charge d'Affaires from the Uzbekistan Embassy (Mr Saldov Timur Sharlovich).

This afternoon His Royal Highness was received in the Ukraine by the Foreign Minister (Mr Hennadiy Udrovko).

After the official arrival ceremony in Kiev, The Prince of Wales took part in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Glory Square, visited Novobelski Residential Hospital, and, as President of The Prince of Wales Business Leaders Forum, attended a meeting with young Ukrainian businessmen at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Reception at the British Embassy for the British business community in Ukraine.

The Prince of Wales later attended a Dinner at the Martynsky Palace given by President Kuchma.

Mr Stephen Lampert, Lieutenant-Commander John Laverty RN and Mr Mark Bolland are in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 4: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this morning opened the new premises of OMEGA plc, the first development on the Capitol Park Industrial Estate at Thorne, near Doncaster.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire (The Earl of Scarborough).

November 4: The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, the Order of St John accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this morning visited the Durban St John Headquarters and subsequently departed for Port Elizabeth.

In the afternoon Their Royal Highnesses visited the Stela Londt (Retirement) Complex and opened the new offices of the Port Elizabeth St John Headquarters, Durban St John Port Elizabeth.

In the evening The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attended a dinner at the Port Elizabeth Club.

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal will attend an industry committee meeting at Buckingham Palace at 9.30am as President of the Animal Health Trust, will preside at a meeting of the council of management at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, W1, at 11.25am will attend a party at Dillons of Gower Street, WC1, at 3.00pm to mark the company's 60th anniversary; and, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend the International Yacht Racing Union's annual dinner and World Sailor of the Year awards at The Grand Hotel, Kings Road, Brighton, at 7.40pm.

The Duke of Kent, as president of the council, will attend a council meeting at King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers at 10.45am, and, as Patron of the British Computer Society, will preside at the awards judging at Church House Conference Centre, Dean's Yard, SW1, at 12.30pm.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize winners were announced yesterday: £100,000: 66M2 303035, winner from Birmingham, 14482 840951, £10,000: Mid Glamorgan 2372 15782 111450; West Sussex 15017 219533, £1,000: Cardiff 15015 15015, Hackney, London, 54R1 684121, £500: L200, Lancashire 15015 15015, £250: Gwent 91019 611482; Avon 56G5 675327; Bedfordshire 15018 15018, Shropshire 4018 171850, Hammersmith & Fulham, London, 54MB 15015 15015, £100: Gloucester 47M4 54731, £50: Suffolk 168K 011822, £2,750: Cheshire 15015 15015, £100: Cambridge, Cambridgeshire 844987, £200: West Sussex 61N7 61N7, £10,000: Wiltshire 26YN 691292, £5,010: East Sussex 12PF 365991, £227, Dumfriesshire.

The meeting which was to have been addressed by Farouk Al Sharai, Foreign Minister of Syria, on Wednesday, November 6, 1996, at 1.30pm, has been cancelled.

Mr Peter Doberciner

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Peter Doberciner, former golf writer of *The Observer*, author and golf course designer, will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, on Tuesday, November 12.

The Oratory School Society

The annual Requiem Mass for Old Oratorians will take place at 6.30pm on Thursday, November 14, in the Little Oratory, Brompton, London, SW7. There will be refreshments after the service.

The Royal Institute of International Affairs

The meeting which was to have been addressed by Farouk Al Sharai, Foreign Minister of Syria, on Wednesday, November 6, 1996, at 1.30pm, has been cancelled.

Marie Curie Cancer Care

The appointment has been announced of Sir Nicholas Fenn, CBE, as Chief Executive, Marie Curie Cancer Care, in January 1997 in succession to Major-General Michael Cartwright-Smith, CB, DL, on his retirement.

Ronald Bernstein Lecture

The Lord Chancellor was in the chair at the Ronald Bernstein lecture delivered by Lord Justice Saville on behalf of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the London Court of International Arbitration last night at Middle Temple.

YANNIS - Adrian on November 1st, suddenly died on November 1st, his beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Family flowers only. Donations to the Macmillan Gilt, King Edward VII Hall, Midhurst, Sussex, on 12 noon, 31st November.

RONALD - Sudden death of Ronald, a son of Eddie and John.

CLEMENTSON - Peggy (née Wacher). In memory of a young woman, 1996. Younger daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs Stewart of Wetherby, Yorkshire.

HILLARD - His Honour Richard died peacefully after a short illness on 29th October, 1996, at his home in Brixton, London.

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OBITUARIES

JEAN-BEDEL BOKASSA

Jean-Bédel Bokassa, former ruler of the Central African Republic, died on November 3 aged 75. He was born on February 22, 1921.

In the course of his 13-year reign in Central Africa, Jean-Bédel Bokassa became a byword for cruelty, greed and the unbridled exercise of absolute power. He will perhaps be remembered chiefly as an arrogant buffoon with a Napoleon complex, presenting himself on a gold-plated throne in a parody of imperial pomp. But the preposterous vanity of his comic-book coronation as self-styled Emperor was only the most absurd manifestation of a capricious tyranny that did untold harm to an already struggling nation. Supported almost to the end by French governments anxious to maintain their influence over a former colony (and keen to exploit its deposits of diamonds and uranium), he systematically plundered the meagre resources of one of the world's poorest countries and subjected its people to a rule of unpredictable terror.

Jean-Bédel Bokassa was born in a village some 50 miles from Bangui in what was then the French colony of Oubangui-Chari. His father, a village chief, was murdered when Bokassa was six years old, and his mother committed suicide; the boy was brought up by French missionaries. After joining the Free French forces during the war he went on to serve in the French Army for 23 years with courage and distinction, notably in Indo-China, before being invited to return to his own country to serve in its armed forces after independence. He rose rapidly to become Commander-in-Chief. The regime, headed by Bokassa's cousin, David Dacko, soon ran into economic difficulties and eventually found itself faced with a general strike. It was then, on New Year's Eve 1965, that Bokassa was installed as President in a bloodless coup d'état.

When Oubangui-Chari became independent as the Central African Republic in 1960, it had retained close links with France, and the coup that brought Bokassa to power had no French support, at the very least. Bokassa would refer to General de Gaulle as "Papa", and "Père", and he in turn was regarded by Jacques Foccart, architect of de Gaulle's Africa policy, as an "acquaintance très francophile". When news of the coup reached Paris, Foccart saw no need to intervene and did not even wake de Gaulle.

The early years of Bokassa's



Bokassa at his coronation as Emperor of his self-proclaimed Central African Empire

regime were promising. Although he had himself grown up in an atmosphere of violence and cruelty, he treated the ousted President Dacko with generosity. For a time he seemed content to remain within the comfortable orbit of the French Community, and to devote much of his energy to tackling the problems of poverty and hunger and the evils of corruption and overrunning in his civil service. He instigated agricultural reforms, expanded diamond production, and built a university; but it was not long before he became obsessed with domestic rivalries and threats to his own position.

There were several attempted assassinations and abortive coups and he asked for French military help to deal with one insurrection. Although he ostensibly continued to model his administration on French lines, he gradually assumed more and more powers himself until, by 1974, he was President for Life, Minister of Justice, Minister of Defence,

Minister of the Interior, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and Keeper of the Seals. Reports began to circulate about the harsh treatment of political opponents.

His foreign policy was equally idiosyncratic. While he took an active part in meetings of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), he also joined a number of other francophone leaders in establishing links with South Africa. Early in 1970 he began to solicit help from the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc, but relations with France, though turbulent, remained close, and by November he was weeping at General de Gaulle's funeral and renewing his good relations with various French politicians, notably François Mitterrand, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, and with whom he shared a passion for hunting.

Six years later, after a visit from Colonel Gaddafi of Libya in 1976, Bokassa dissolved the conventional forms of government and reassumed power as

President of a Council of the Central African Revolution. He had been brought up as a Roman Catholic but now, declaring that Christianity was not an African religion but "an instrument of European imperialism", he became a Muslim and changed his style to Field Marshal Salah al Din Ahmad Bokassa.

This phase did not last, and in the following year he renamed his country the Central African Empire, with himself as its ruler. He crowned himself Emperor in December 1977 in one of the most gaudily lavish spectacles ever seen.

At a time when his country had an annual per capita income of just over £100, Bokassa's coronation cost tens of millions. The model was the coronation of Napoleon, as seen through the eyes of Hollywood. There was a triumphal arch with classical Greek columns; a gold-plated throne in the shape of an eagle weighing more than two tons; an imperial state coach

drawn by a team of imported white horses; 3,000 imperial guards in ceremonial uniforms; a crown decorated with rubies, emeralds and 8,000 local diamonds; 20 tons of fresh flowers, flown in from Europe; robes of scarlet and ermine, embroidered with pearls... "This is a milestone in the intrepid march of our people towards its own destiny," Bokassa proclaimed. "Who could doubt that the authentic Africa is one of kingdoms and empires?"

In fact, most of Africa viewed Bokassa's antics as a disgrace. The ceremony attracted scorn and revulsion from around the world, and the Pope and many of the invited heads of state stayed away. But still there were diplomats from 40 countries in attendance, and France seemed content to foot most of the bill, as a bizarre extension of aid to its former colony. But the real cost was borne by the new Emperor's subjects, for by now Bokassa was shamelessly treating the national exchequer as a personal bank account, and his extravagance had brought the country to the brink of ruin.

Greedy was now fully matched by brutality. The regime's rumoured cruelties grew ever more atrocious, but there were also plenty of authenticated tales of Bokassa's condoning or personally participating in violations of human rights. Convicted criminals were beaten to death, and thieves had their ears cut off. Foreign journalists were assaulted and imprisoned. Schoolchildren protesting at the introduction of compulsory school uniforms (available only from a company controlled by the Emperor's wife) were tortured and killed, some undoubtedly by Bokassa himself.

The massacre of schoolchildren provoked an international outcry and obliged even Giscard to withdraw his support in 1979. In September of that year, two years after his coronation, Bokassa was himself ousted by a French-backed coup while away on a state visit to Libya. He was replaced by the same David Dacko whom he had originally unseated.

Bokassa sought asylum in France, where he had extensive property and business interests, but he was initially persuaded to seek refuge instead with his old friend Houphouët-Boigny in the Ivory Coast. France, however, was by no means rid of him; the revelation that President Giscard had once accepted a gift of diamonds from him caused a scandal and almost certainly contributed to François Mitterrand's victory in the 1981 presidential elections.

In October 1986, for reasons best known to himself, Bokassa returned to the Central African Republic. He was put on trial for a catalogue of offences of which he had already been convicted in his absence. Despite the discovery of human corpses stuffed with rice in the presidential freezer, accusations of cannibalism were dismissed for lack of evidence, but there was proof enough to convict him of conspiracy to murder, illegal detention of people, and embezzlement of state funds. He was sentenced to death, but the sentence was commuted by President André Kolingba to one of life imprisonment later reduced to 20 years and then to ten. In 1993, after serving nearly seven years, Bokassa was released. To the end, by which time he was proclaiming himself the 13th Apostle of Christ, he remained convinced of his popularity, and he was eager to stand as a candidate in the next presidential elections.

As it was, his career was stalled not only by the prejudices of the day but, ironically, by her family connections. Her two brothers were John Foster Dulles, President Eisenhower's Secretary of State; and Allen Dulles, with the CIA from 1953 until the Bay of Pigs. In 1953 the newly appointed John Foster Dulles used his influence to secure his brother the deputy directorship of the CIA (he became director the same year). His sister had already been appointed assistant to the office of German affairs within the State Department, and Foster Dulles swiftly tried to manoeuvre her into resigning, in order to counter charges of nepotism. In his first objective he did not succeed, as Eleanor liked to recall with satisfaction.

Bokassa had numerous wives and mistresses, including his Empress, Catherine, and a Romanian ballet dancer who had hopes of sharing his throne; between them they bore him some 55 children.

Lord Hankey, KCMG, KCVO, diplomat, died on October 28 aged 91. He was born on July 3, 1905.

ROBIN HANKEY was a diplomat whose choice of profession was largely inspired by his father, who had been Secretary to the Cabinet, and by family friendships with Lloyd George and Winston Churchill. In difficult posts his courage strengthened his resolve of his own staff and that of other missions.

In fact, most of Africa viewed Bokassa's antics as a disgrace. The ceremony attracted scorn and revulsion from around the world, and the Pope and many of the invited heads of state stayed away. But still there were diplomats from 40 countries in attendance, and France seemed content to foot most of the bill, as a bizarre extension of aid to its former colony. But the real cost was borne by the new Emperor's subjects, for by now Bokassa was shamelessly treating the national exchequer as a personal bank account, and his extravagance had brought the country to the brink of ruin.

The eldest son of the 1st Lord Hankey, a legend even in his lifetime in Whitehall, Robert Maurice Alers Hankey was sent to school at Rugby, where he sat in the sixth form with his future foreign service colleague Frank Roberts. He read PPE at New College, Oxford, and gained a travelling fellowship from Queen's College to study at Tours and Bonn Universities.

After a brief period in Berlin, he was transferred to Paris where, typically, he played horse as centre half for the Racing Club and winning the league title, representing France in international matches. (Possessing an exceptional eye, he would safely hit a cherry stone off the Whitehall pavement with full force using the tip of an umbrella.)

His favourite activities of music, skiing, tennis, swimming, sailing and camping were often an extension of his professional duties. Even on official visits, he would seize any opportunity to ski, amaze young colleagues. When he finally stopped aged 87, he had skied in more than 70 countries.

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He returned to London on his marriage in 1930 to Francis Bevyl Stuart-Menteth. Appointed private secretary to Anthony Eden, he accompanied him on visits to Berlin, Geneva and Rome, meeting Hitler and Mussolini. On a train journey to Munich the SS guard told him that De Gaulle was behind a nearby hill. He could thus claim to be among the first British officials to learn of the existence of concentration camps.

His next posting was Warsaw, from which he had to flee in 1939 in his Austin 7 with the

LORD HANKEY

embassy translator, his dog and the ciphers. He then went to Bucharest, where he was still in post the day the Iron Guard took over. He made his escape quickly since he knew his name was on its death list.

After a year in Cairo, he had a more prolonged stay in Tehran, where he assisted his former colleague, Fitzroy Maclean, on his SAS mission to kidnap the chief of the Persian General Staff. He also played tennis weekly with the young Shah, acting as the Allies' unofficial contact with



He took up his first post as Ambassador in Stockholm in 1954. He was appointed KCMG in 1955 and KCVO in 1956 following the royal visit. His popularity led to his later becoming president of the Anglo-Swedish Society.

But his crowning diplomatic achievements were at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris from 1960 to 1965. He was proud of persuading the Treasury to accept the need for OECD, which followed on the completion of the Marshall Plan for which the original Organisation for European Economic Co-operation had been created. Hankey played no small part in helping to guide both bodies through critical stages, and was a particularly effective in gaining recognition of the need for the main industrial countries to co-ordinate their economic policies.

After retiring in 1965, he became a council member of the United World Colleges and of the International Baccalaureate Foundation, as well as being a director of the Alliance Building Society. In the House of Lords, where he unwaveringly sat on the cross benches, he brought his common sense and balance of judgment to many areas — foreign and economic policy, labour relations, and, more recently, in drawing attention to the benefits of transcendental meditation.

His first wife Bevyl died in 1957. In 1962 he married Joanna Wright, who died in 1991. The following year he married, thirdly, Stephanie Langley (née King), who survives him, together with their two daughters and two sons of his first marriage. His elder son Donald succeeds to the barony.

In 1953, a medical emergency

ELEANOR DULLES

Eleanor Dulles, American diplomat and economist, died on October 30 aged 101. She was born on June 1, 1895.

ELEANOR DULLES was a formidable woman and career diplomat, who was sometimes referred to as "the mother of West Berlin" for her success in rejuvenating the economy of that city in the aftermath of the Second World War. She might have gone further, had it not been for the male chauvinism which was then rampant in the State Department. Never unduly modest, she herself considered that a Cabinet seat would have been a fitting reward for her achievements.

As it was, her career was stalled not only by the prejudices of the day but, ironically, by her family connections. Her two brothers were John Foster Dulles, President Eisenhower's Secretary of State; and Allen Dulles, with the CIA from 1953 until the Bay of Pigs.

In 1953 the newly appointed John Foster Dulles used his influence to secure his brother the deputy directorship of the CIA (he became director the same year). His sister had already been appointed assistant to the office of German affairs within the State Department, and Foster Dulles swiftly tried to manoeuvre her into resigning, in order to counter charges of nepotism. In his first objective he did not succeed, as Eleanor liked to recall with satisfaction.

Bokassa had numerous wives and mistresses, including his Empress, Catherine, and a Romanian ballet dancer who had hopes of sharing his throne; between them they bore him some 55 children.

strong handshake and an intolerance of small talk. The Dulles family had, as a clan, much of the political single-mindedness of the Kennedys, if without their charisma. Eleanor was one of five children born to a Presbyterian minister in Watertown, New York, and raised into the privilege of the East Coast Establishment. Her grandfather

study at the LSE. She wrote a scholarly book on the French franc and was awarded a doctorate in economics by Yale University. In 1932 she defied her family to marry an Orthodox Jew, David Blondheim. Her husband committed suicide in 1934.

She entered government service in 1936, as an economist on the Social Security Board. Joining the State Department in 1942, she represented her country at the Bretton Woods conference of 1944 and, immediately after the Second World War ended, was sent to Vienna as financial attaché. Her job was to organise the feeding of starving Austrians, a task which she accomplished by bartering horses for German potatoes. She performed a much greater economic miracle during the 1950s when she was sent to West Berlin to improve industrial productivity and to reduce the staggering rate of unemployment of 33 per cent.

The job entailed much shuttle diplomacy. To speed up her frequent requests to Washington for money she would send notes from Berlin, asking for aid, "then rush back to Washington in time to compose favourable answers".

She left her German posting in 1959 and retired from the State Department three years later. In retirement she had time to concentrate on her memoirs. She wrote 13 books in all, ranging from academic works on her favourite topic — American foreign policy — to a detective novel.

She is survived by her son and daughter.

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She is survived by her son and daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TICKETS FOR SALE

FLATSHARE

FLIGHTS

FLIGHTS WANTED

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

JETLINE

AIRLINK

CAPITAL FLIGHTS

FLIGHTS

CENTRAL FLIGHTS

EMBASSY FLIGHT CENTRE

FLYING

FLYING

FLYING

FLYING

FOR SALE

MORNING SUITS

DINNER SUITS

EVENING TAIL SUITS

SUPPLY TO RING

LADIES & SONS

MORNING SUITS

DINNER SUITS

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SUPPLY TO RING

LADIES & SONS

MORNING SUITS

EVENING TAIL SUITS

SUPPLY TO RING

LAD

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	1m	Wk	Av	Pts
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	-3	
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-1	+6	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-3	+28	
10202	V Bartman	Arsenal	0.75	0	0	
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	-8	
10301	M Sosnicki	Aston Villa	3.50	-1	+1	
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	-5	+11	
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-5	-13	
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0	
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0	-1	
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10	
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-20	
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0	-6	
10702	J Pien	Coventry City	0.50	0	0	
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0	
10802	R Houli	Derby County	1.00	-5	-4	
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4	
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	-1	
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	0	-1	
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-5	+4	
11102	J Kearton	Everton	0.50	0	0	
11103	P Gerard	Everton	2.50	0	0	
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-5	-16	
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-7	-4	
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	-1	-25	
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	0	
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0	
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-5	-8	
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	-3	-3	
11602	D James	Leicester City	1.00	0	-4	
11701	A Warner	Liverpool	5.00	-5	+5	
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	0	0	
11802	R van der Gouwe	Manchester United	1.00	-3	-13	
11901	G Wash	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+5	
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23	
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-5	-11	
12002	P Smalek	Newcastle United	4.00	0	-3	
12003	M Crowley	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	-5	
12004	A Feltis	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-4	-21	
12005	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0	
12006	S Thomson	Rangers	0.50	-20	-1	
12007	A Gorem	Sheffield Wednesday	5.00	-1	+3	
12008	D Bressent	Southampton	1.00	-10	-10	
12009	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	-2	-2	
12010	L Peacock	Sunderland	0.50	-5	-5	
12011	A Cohn	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	-5	+15	
12012	I Walker	West Ham United	2.00	-1	-13	
12013	L Milosko	West Ham United	0.50	-5	-5	
12014	S Mautone	Wimbledon	1.00	-3	+7	
12015	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0	
12016	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0	



Paolo Di Canio scores for Celtic against Aberdeen on Saturday, boosting his ITF tally to a useful 18 points

Code	Name	Team	1m	Wk	Av	Pts					
30101	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	-4	+3	40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+3
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0	40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	-1	+13
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3	40603	G Peacock	Chelsea	2.50	0	0
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	-12	40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	-1	+12
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	-1	+13	40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	0	+2
30502	M Mackay	Celtic	1.50	0	-3	40606	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
30503	A Stuhle	Chelsea	3.50	-1	+11	40608	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	-1	+20
30504	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	-2	-3	40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30601	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	-6	-15	40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+16
30602	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	-1	40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	0	+7
30603	D Lee	Chelsea	1.50	0	-3	40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	0	-10
30604	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	-10	40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	0	-10
30605	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	0	-10	40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	+5
30607	J Kleiberg	Chelsea	0.50	0	-1	40706	M Isales	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	0	-5	40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	-1	40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
30703	D Bwest	Coventry City	1.00	0	-1	40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	-2	+15
30801	I Stivens	Derby County	2.50	0	-1	40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+2
30802	D Westell	Derby County	1.00	0	0	40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	0	-2
30803	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	-4	-2	40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.50	0	+11
30804	J Laing	Derby County	1.00	-1	-7	40805	G Flynn	Derby County	0.50	-2	+11
30805	C Doherty	Derby County	0.50	0	-9	40806	G Rovell	Derby County	1.50	-1	+5
30806	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	0	-9	40807	G Dailey	Derby County	1.50	-1	+16
30807	M Miller	Dunfermline	0.75	-1	-6	40808	M Flynn	Dundee United	0.50	-2	+11
30901	I Den Blaman	Dunfermline	0.75	-2	-7	40809	G McAllister	Dundee United	2.00	-1	+15
30902	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	-4	-11	40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	-2	+12
30903	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-4	-5	40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
30904	C Short	Everton	2.00	-6	-12	42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	0	-10
30905	D McPherson	Everton	1.00	-4	-4	42304	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	-1	+7
30906	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-4	-2	42305	D Beneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	-2
30907	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-4	-3	42306	R Palmer	Dundee United	1.00	-1	+8
30908	J McLaughlin	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	-4	42307	R Robertson	Dundee United	1.00	-1	+8
30909	R Welsh	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	-9	42308	D Cameron	Dundee United	1.00	-1	+8
30910	G Hunter	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	-9	42309	I Palmer	Dundee United	1.00	-1	+8
30911	N Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-3	42310	A Smith	Dundee United	0.75	-1	+12
30912	R Montgomery	Kilmarnock	0.50	-1	-1	42311	D Fleming	Dundee United	0.50	-1	+10
30913	D Wetherell	Leeds United	2.50	-4	-7	42312	M McNamee	Everton	7.00	-2	+16
30914	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0	-2	42313	M Fulton	Everton	4.00	-2	+16
30915	C Short	Leeds United	1.50	0	-2	42314	K McAllister	Everton	1.50	0	-8
30916	D McPeake	Leeds United	1.00	0	-2	42315	H Glavin	Everton	1.00	-1	+8
30917	D Radford	Leeds United	3.00	-1	-1	42316	A Coulzans	Leeds United	0.50	0	-8
30918	D Wetherell	Leeds United	1.00	0	-2	42317	M Tindler	Leeds United	3.00	-1	+10
30919	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4	42318	L Bowyer	Leeds United			

NEWS

Dorrell seeks £1bn to rescue NHS

■ Stephen Dorrell will appeal to the Cabinet over the heads of the Treasury today for the extra £1 billion that he insists is needed to prevent a crisis in the hospital service.

The Health Secretary was reported to be ready to "go to the wire" to bridge the gap between his target of £1 billion and the £700 million he has won in protracted negotiations Page 1

Plot to steal millions from cashpoints

■ Kenneth Noye, one of Britain's most wanted men, conspired to steal hundreds of millions of pounds from cashpoint machines in a plot that could have brought the banking system to its knees, a court was told. Noye, 49, a suspect in the M25 "road rage" murder, is thought to be in hiding in Spain. The seven defendants in the trial, who have admitted conspiracy to steal, will be sentenced next month Pages 1, 6

Bomb case collapses

The case against a woman accused of planting a car bomb outside the Israeli Embassy in London collapsed when a judge described the evidence against her as suspect Page 1

Howard under fire

The former Home Secretaries Douglas Hurd and Kenneth Baker combined with some senior judges in a strong attack on Michael Howard's plans for tough mandatory sentences for repeat offenders Page 2

Taxing task

A prostitute told a court that she was paid hundreds of pounds to have regular sex with senior Inland Revenue tax inspector in a West End hotel Page 3

Exam appeals rise

A big rise in appeals against GCSE and A-level grades is forcing a rethink in the procedures used by examining boards and universities Page 4

Restaurant fall

Sir John Harvey-Jones attacked the restaurant owned by Lord Linley as "monstrous" after his disabled daughter won a six-year fight for damages from a fall that broke her leg Page 5

Rural fightback

The village shop is at last winning the battle against cut-price competition from supermarkets. research shows Page 9

Gascoigne tells of 'rage inside me'

■ Paul Gascoigne talked of the "rage inside me" and confessed to feeling remorse after beating his wife two weeks ago. "I can't go into great detail about the incident," he said, "but I deeply regret what happened with Sheryl. It will live with me for the rest of my life." He added: "I don't blame the women's rights groups for wanting me kicked out" Page 1

Pasternak's muse

Letters from Boris Pasternak to the woman on whom he modelled Lars in *Dr Zhivago* reveal the depth of their love Page 11

Manifesto vote

Tony Blair won a convincing mandate for Labour's draft manifesto when party members endorsed it by a majority of 19 to one Page 12

Terror warning

Israel has been placed on security alert after intelligence warnings from the United States and Germany of a terrorist attack by Islamic Jihad Page 13

Clinton on course

Bill Clinton is set to become the first Democrat in 60 years to win re-election, but only because the economy is strong and his opponent weak Pages 14, 15

Ceasefire in Zaire

Eastern Zaire's rebels called a unilateral three-week ceasefire to allow emergency relief to be delivered to more than a million refugees from the fighting Page 16

Bokassa dies

Jean Bédel Bokassa, former dictator of the Central African Republic, has died Page 16

Bulgarian poll

Bulgaria's top divorce lawyer, Petar Stoyanov, has beaten his Socialist rival to become the new head of state Page 17



Still hoping: Bob Dole waves a copy of the infamously inaccurate *Chicago Daily Tribune* front page from 1948. Pages 1, 14, 15

BUSINESS

House price boom: House prices are rising by more than 7 per cent a year, according to the latest figures, the fastest for more than two and a half years Page 27

BT link-up: Shares in BT soared after the company announced that it would pay a 35p special dividend in March as part of its effort to take full control of MCI Page 27

Funds merge: The fund management group Invesco is to merge with AIM Management Group in a \$1.6 billion deal Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 share index fell 20.4 points to 3928.1. On the foreign exchange markets, the pound rose from \$1.6375 to \$1.6467 and from DM2.4836 to DM2.4915. The sterling index closed up 0.3 at 91.2 Page 30

SPORT

Football: Rob Hughes wonders whether the errant Paul Gascoigne might become a better player for having confronted his personal problems Page 52

Rugby union: The league fixture between Newcastle and Rotherham has been postponed, freeing three Scots and two Irishmen for international duty Page 48

Sports academy: The bid to create the British Academy of Sport at Heyford, Oxfordshire, may persuade Steve Redgrave, the Olympic rowing champion, to remain in Britain Page 49

Racing: Chris Wall, the Newmarket trainer, saddled Donna Viola to win the Yellow Ribbon Stakes, one of the biggest events for fillies in the United States Page 45

Women on tour: Work by 37 women artists, living and dead, has gone on show in London after an international tour Page 37

Seaside humour: Any play which sees two large green lizards alongside a couple on a beach, as Edward Albee's *Seascape* does, deserves points for imagination, if not for depth Page 38

Silent star: Italy's annual Pordenone festival of silent film has this year revived the career of the director Herbert Brenon, as well as shedding new light on years of Soviet gloom Page 39

Jukebox jury: Jonathan Miller's irrepressible Mafioso production of *Rigoletto*, set in a bar in Sicily, is back at the Coliseum Page 39

ARTS

Mary Quant: "Fashion may be for everybody, but modelling fashion is not. Fashion begins as a fantasy and dream, which only becomes real by everyday use" Page 19

Defiant love: While Harold Brodsky was dying from Aids, he kept a journal that became a lyrical and moving testament of love to his wife, Ellen Page 18

LITERATURE

Better access: Frances Gibb on the first "no win, no fee" group action, by lung cancer victims against tobacco companies Page 44

LITERATURE

Great reader: Jim McCue on antique books from Baskerville to Izaak Walton Page 34

LITERATURE

Zaire is dying, and Central Africa is heading again for a bloodbath. But the myth of Tutsi racial superiority over the Hutus was disseminated by the colonialists' powers, and Western appeals for the intervention of UN troops are hypocritical. The post-colonialist West is guilty of a moral and political absence of will. The Western powers are looking not so much for humanitarian solutions as for alibis. No doubt they will find them, as they always have in the past *La Stampa* Page 21

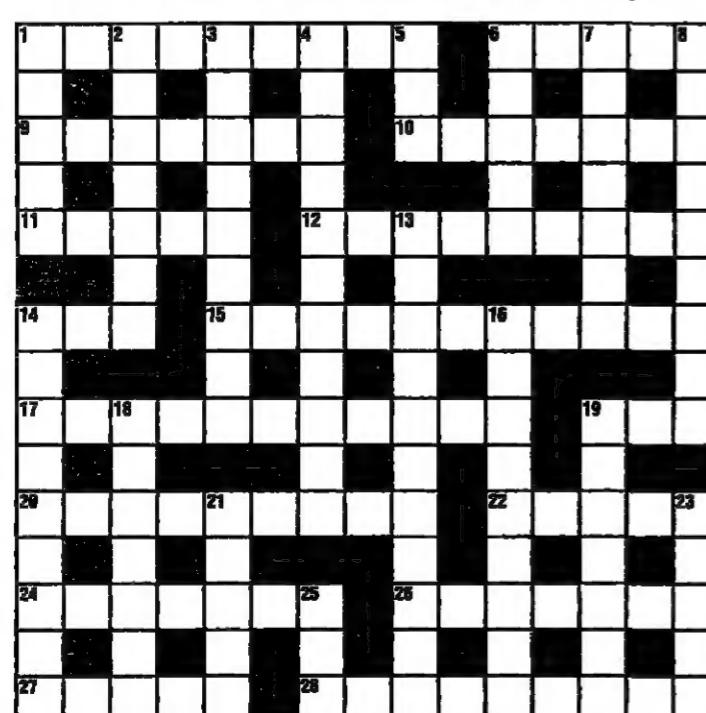
LITERATURE

Jean Bédel Bokassa, former ruler of the Central African Republic; Lord Hankey, diplomat; Eleanor Dulles, Eisenhower's State Department expert on Germany Page 23

LITERATURE

Zaire; weather forecasts: corporal punishment Page 21

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AA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions

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